

Approved: December 1, 2015

NEW CASTLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOVEMBER 3, 2015 @ 4:00 PM

Members Present: Beth Barnhorst, Chair Lynn McCarthy, Brian Mack, Nancy Gulley, Jim Rini, Conni White

Members Not Present: Bill Marshall, Darcy Horgan, Curt Gillespie

Others Present: Tracy Shattuck (NH Port Authority), Susan Feretra representing the David Mahoney trust.

Chair McCarthy called the November 3, 2015 meeting to order at 4:05 pm

Approve October minutes

Nancy Gulley MOVED to approve the October 6, 2015 minutes as amended; this was SECONDED by Jim Rini and APPROVED unanimously.

Work Session / Applications:

Review and Recommendation:

106 Beach Hill Road, David and Kathleen Mahoney
Tax Map 10, Lot 30 - Replacement Subsurface Sewage Disposal System

Susan Feretra presented the application for the Mahoneys'. She noted that the septic system located at 106 Beach Hill Road (Tax Map 10, lot 30) is showing signs of failure. Ms. Feretra noted that the property is located at the end of Beach Hill Road and is within the 75 ft. buffer of fresh water wetland and the 100 ft. tidal buffer. She said that the current system is located on the abutting property and her goal is to get the system within their property and within the current setbacks. Ms. Feretra said that the property has an existing year round home on the property. She said she would like to propose a new aerobic pretreatment tank (clean solution) that leads to a small

effluent disposal leach field. Ms. Feretra said there will be temporary impacts with the installation of the leach field and the new tank will have some grading over it which will create a permanent impact within the 75 ft. fresh water setback with a small amount in the tidal buffer zone. She said the house is served by municipal water. Ms. Feretra said she looked at installing the system in a location out of all the buffers by placing it in the front yard but there is an existing water line that needs a 25 foot setback, a large ledge outcrop and substantial trees that do not allow for it to be physically placed in the front yard or for a truck to reach it to install it. Ms. Feretra said the new system meets all state criteria (no waivers have been requested) and the wetlands bureau application has been submitted. She said the Department of Historic Resources confirmed that there were no historic resources being affected.

Chair McCarthy asked if there was a response from any of the abutters.

Ms. Feretra said that the abutters received the letters and one of the abutters noted his approval and gave permission to remove the system from his property.

Chair McCarthy asked if there will be anything going onto the abutter's property.

Ms. Feretra said nothing will be placed on the abutter's property and that everything will be 15 ft. off the property boundary. She noted that one evergreen tree (approximately 6-7 feet tall) will need to be removed and later replaced.

Conni White asked what will happen to the system when the sea level rises (12 feet) and this property becomes wet.

Ms. Feretra said that the front of the house is in flood zone elevation 13 but the top of the sea wall is approximately 12.8 ft. She said this is a simple system; the air compressor is remote and blows air through tubing into the system and the top of the tank is at elevation 14 (over the splash over elevation). She said they also need to go before the ZBA and the Planning Board.

Conni White MOVED to recommend approval of the application for an aerobic septic system and leach field as represented on the plans dated 10/6/15 for 106 Beach Hill Road, Tax Map 10, Lot 30; this was SECONDED by Nancy Gulley and APPROVED unanimously.

Review and Recommendation:

Sagamore Creek- Maintenance dredge of Sagamore Creek Federal Navigation Project (Tracy Shattuck from New Hampshire Port Authority).

Mr. Shattuck presented the environmental assessment, chemistry data and suitability determination reports to the members for their review. He said the Army Corp of Engineers have a navigation project called the Sagamore Creek Federal Navigation project. Mr. Shattuck said the projects scope has been limited due to funding concerns. He noted there is very little impact to the eel grass and that the last time the area was dredged was in 1962. Mr. Shattuck said the project will use a sectional barge and dispose of the material off shore of Wallis Sands (it will be good clean sand to create a feeder berm to refresh sand on the beach). He said he did not apply to the other towns, Rye and Portsmouth because he was told that all of the area concerned is in the town of New Castle.

Jim Rini MOVED to notice the absence of any objection to the Sagamore Creek maintenance dredge plan of the Sagamore Creek Federal Navigation Project as presented by the NH Port Authority; this was SECONDED by Nancy Gulley and APPROVED unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- Lavenger Creek Update – Tracy Degnan RCCD

Ms. Degnan reported that most of the field work regarding the 27 sites has been performed. She asked to set up a subcommittee to review the reports, data cards and the wetlands map to determine which wetlands should be recommended to have a 100 ft. buffer. Ms. Degnan said she would also like to invite Patty Cohen, Frank Richards and Stuart Levenson to join the subcommittee.

All members said they would like to volunteer to be on the subcommittee to review the information.

Ms. Degnan reported that the workshop held on October 24th was very well attended and was very informative.

Ms. White suggested that some of the properties near the site walk held during the workshop would benefit by having buffer plantings.

Ms. Degnan said that the Great Bay Coalition has a program, "Soak up the Rain" that may be a resource.

Ms. Degnan distributed the vulnerability assessment reports for New Castle, for the members to review. She reported that Julie LaBranche has funding from the Northeast Regional Ocean Council for each of the coastal communities that they did an assessment for in the amount of \$6000 that can be spent on different projects (such as outreach, emergency evacuation, outreach to business and residents). Ms. Degnan suggested partnering on outreach and work on storm water management (perhaps a zoning amendment and/or to beef up the subdivision regulations). She said that Ms. LaBranche will present to the Planning Board, the Select Board and ZBA also.

Chair McCarthy noted that the Brothwell marsh needs to be delineated (Wetland #15) because the property is for sale (by Marsha Cutting). She said it would be wise to spend the funds to have the delineation so the boundaries are known.

Ms. Degnan said the cost would be approximately \$300 to delineate the wetland boundaries.

Conni White MOVED to approve the funding needed for RCCD to delineate the wetland area and boundaries associated with wetland #15 on Wentworth Road; this was SECONDED by Jim Rini and APPROVED unanimously.

The members chose November 17th as the date to meet as a subcommittee to review the data records and determine which wetlands should have a 100 foot buffer.

New Business

NH Association of Conservation Commissions- annual dues \$266

Nancy Gulley MOVED to approve payment of the NH Association of Conservation Commission annual dues in the amount of \$266; this was SECONDED by Brian Mack and APPROVED unanimously.

NHACC Annual Meeting will be November 7th, 8am-4pm. Members were encouraged to attend.

Announcements

Ron Pascal is interested in joining the Conservation Commission.

The November 3, 2015 meeting of the New Castle Conservation Commission adjourned at 5:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sue Lucius, Secretary to the New Castle Conservation Commission