Orleans Conservation Commission Town Hall, Nauset Room Work Meeting, Tuesday, June 4, 2013



PRESENT: Judith Bruce, Chairwoman; Steve Phillips, Vice-Chairman; Bob Royce;

James Trainor; Jamie Balliett; Judy Brainerd; Nancy O'Mara, Associate; John Jannell,

Conservation Administrator.

ABSENT: Jim O'Brien; Philips Marshall, Associate.

8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

For the purpose of this meeting Nancy O'Mara will be a voting member.

Please note: the minutes reflect the order in which each filings were addressed, and is different than the published Agenda. This change was to accommodate the applicants for the proposed projects.

Continuations

Last Heard 5/21/13 (BR1)

<u>Steve Simon, 8 & 10 Beach Road</u>. Assessor's Map 36, Parcel 23 & 24. The proposed installation of a water line. Work will occur within 25' of the Edge of Wetland. John Jannell explained that the applicant requested a continuance to June 18, 2013. <u>MOTION</u>: A motion to continue the hearing to June 18, 2013, was made by Jamie Balliett and seconded by James Trainor.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Last Heard 5/21/13 (BR1)

Timothy & Andrea Howell, 25 Cheney Road. by Ryder & Wilcox, Inc. Assessor's Map 42, Parcel 1. The proposed removal of an existing single-family dwelling; the construction of a new single-family dwelling; the replacement of an existing timber stairway: invasive plant management; & native plant restoration. Work will occur in the buffer zone to the Top of a Coastal Bank, on a Coastal Bank, on a Coastal Beach, on Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, & in the Pleasant Bay A.C.E.C. David Lyttle of Ryder & Wilcox, Inc., and Doug Guey-Lee of Wilkinson Ecological Design, were present. David Lyttle explained that both Revised Site Plans showing the house moving back and a Revised Restoration Plan had been submitted in response to the Commission's questions during the hearing on May 21, 2013. The house has been mowed back outside of the 50' buffer and the deck reconfigured, and a new Variance Request reflecting only the work proposed within the 50' buffer had been submitted. David Lyttle noted that the project resulted in the removal of 495' in the 0-50' buffer, a reduction of dwelling by 194', and an increase of deck by 134'. David Lyttle noted that there was a paved driveway about 9' into the 100' buffer, and 6 trees were now proposed to be removed. Doug Guey-Lee reiterated that the Commission had expressed apprehension of the way in which the pathways were drawn, and noted that only stone steppers were to be installed. Judith Bruce noted that these changes were a significant improvement, and David Lyttle explained that while there was clearly a window to look out from and to the resource area, the overall current view from the watershed would not be changed. Judith Bruce asked if the existing lawn area was to

remain lawn that no pesticides, fertilizers, or herbicides be used on this area. David Lyttle said he would let his client know that this would be a condition of the Order, and Steve Phillips asked if the area of Cape Cod Meadow Mix would be on a regular mowing schedule. David Lyttle said it would not, and James Trainor thanked the applicant for moving the house further from the resource area. Judy Brainerd concurred, and John Jannell explained that while a DEP number had been issued, NHESP comments had not been received. Judith Bruce inquired if the audience had any comments, and David Lyttle asked that the hearing be continued for one week to see if NHESP was received.

MOTION: A motion to continue the hearing to June 11, 2013, was made by Bob Royce and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous

Notice of Intent

Gregory DeLory & Diana Landau, 21 Tom's Hollow Lane. by Ryder & Wilcox, Inc. Assessor's Map 81, Parcel 52. The proposed construction of a deck attached to an existing single-family dwelling. Work will occur within 100' of the Edge of Wetland & a Certified Vernal Pool. James Trainor recused himself. David Lyttle of Ryder & Wilcox, Inc, and Greg DeLory, applicant, were present. David Lyttle said that the proposed deck would not result in the removal of any trees but that 3 ornamental bushes would be removed, and Greg DeLory clarified that these would be three lilacs. David Lyttle noted that the work would occur within Cape Cod Lawn, with hand-dug sonotubes, and the corner of the deck would extend 5' within the buffer of the vernal pool. Greg DeLory explained that the scheme of the sonotube configuration would be that of large girders to keep the number of sonotubes down. David Lyttle did not feel that this would impact amphibians from the Vernal Pool, and Judith Bruce agreed that this work would not negatively impact their habitat. Steve Phillips inquired about the deck spacing, and Greg DeLory said between 1/4" to 3/16th inch. Judith Bruce did not think that there would be much growth underneath the deck, and that this was more typical with walkways and piers. David Lyttle explained that this area was also shaded by trees, but that the pervious deck would allow for water to go to the ground below. Greg DeLory said that the wood decking may have as much as a 3/8ths spacing. John Jannell noted that during the on-site the Commission asked if a large oak would be saved and confirmed that in fact it would remain. John Jannell said that a DEP number had been received, and the Commission could act if they wished.

MOTION: A motion to close the hearing was made by Steve Phillips and seconded by Bob Royce.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: A motion to approve the site plan dated May 5, 2013, was made by Steve Phillips and seconded by Bob Royce.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Request for Determination of Applicability

Greg DeLory & Diana Landau, 21 Tom's Hollow Lane. Assessor's Map 81, Parcel 52. The proposed installation of a natural gas line. Work will occur within 100' of the Edge of Wetland & Certified Vernal Pool. Greg DeLory, applicant, was present. John Jannell said this was a utility installation where the applicant proposed to use a

trencher. No Trees were proposed to be removed, and Judith Bruce noted that it seemed like a non-event. Steve Phillips confirmed that no trees were to be removed, and Greg DeLory explained that there was plenty of room to navigate the gas line without removing any trees. Jamie Balliett inquired why the proposal was not incorporated in the Notice of Intent. Greg DeLory explained that when he hired Ryder & Wilcox, Inc, the timing of the filing was unknown, and he wanted to move as quickly as possible on the installation of a gas line.

MOTION: A motion to close the hearing was made by Jamie Balliett and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: A motion to issue a Negative Determination was made by Jamie Balliett and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Modification/Amend Order of Conditions

Frank Csongor, 47 Nauset Road. The proposed consideration of modification or Amendment to the Order of Conditions SE 54-2147 at 47 Nauset Road, Assessor's Map 22. Parcel 71. David Lyttle, representing the Csongors, Greg Berman, Coastal Processes Specialist for Woods Hole Sea Grant and Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, and Mike Ford. Town Counsel for the Town of Orleans, were present. John Jannell went over the history of this file, explaining that this was legally advertised because the resource areas were challenged and Greg Berman was asked to prepare an independent review of the site to determine if the delineation accepted for DEP# SE 54-2147 was correct. John Jannell noted that a packet of information had been supplied to the Commission, including but not limited to the approved Order of Conditions, the approved site plan, the letter the Chair sent to the applicant notifying him of the public hearing, and the report by Greg Berman. The meeting today is to consider the modification of an open Order of Conditions (OOC) which, under the Standard Conditions on all Orders attached to the OOC, was permitable. John Jannell requested Town Counsel's presence so that the Commission may ask any questions about how to proceed should the Commission wish to modify the existing open OOC. John Jannell explained that all new building permits for this property had been put on hold until this matter was resolved, and reminded the Commission that they did not want to penalize someone who was lawfully building what the Commission had determined as outside of the buffer zone to the resource area. John Jannell noted that in addition to Greg Berman attending the meeting today, he noted that there were additional interested parties who may want to speak and the Commission could accommodate public comment. Judith Bruce publically thanked Greg Berman for the work which he had put into the report submitted to the Conservation Department, and asked Mike Ford procedurally how they should address both public comment and work through the concerns of the Commission. Mike Ford suggested that the Commission speak first. James Trainor said he did not have any questions, Steve Phillips noted that the report was clear, and Bob Royce commented that the report was excellent, and provided clarification whether or not the landform was a Coastal Bank. Judith Bruce asked if the Commission or anyone else had a question for Greg Berman. David Lyttle said that he had the opportunity to walk the site with John Jannell and Greg Berman, and wanted to know if he hired a Coastal Geologist to do logs of the soils seaward of the Coastal Bank, and they in turn determined there was no Dune present nor did a Dune touch the

Bottom of the Bank, if his opinion would change. Greg Berman thought the main way of looking at that question was to determine how far removed from the Ocean the land form is; under the Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) it was not too far, but under the local by-law, it did not have to be bordering in order to be subject to the by-law. David Lyttle explained that his interpretation of the regulation said that if there was upland between the Dune and the Bank that it would not be subject to Commission's jurisdiction. Greg Berman responded that there may be some grey area if there was upland between the Dune and the Bank. David Lyttle stated that his client would like to hire a Coastal Geologist before the Commission made a potential modification, unless Greg Berman could give him a definitive answer. Judith Bruce was concerned about calling out an area as upland, and David Lyttle thought that Greg Berman was here to make that determination. Greg Berman suggested that he could do a series of borings and get soil logs in addition to the visual observations which were made on site. Greg Berman said that he could not say with 100% certainty if it was windblown sediment as part of the Dune sequence or if it was scoured out, and the logs could help make this determination. Dave Michniewicz of Coastal Engineering explained that he had been hired by Roberta Hurlburt, a direct abutter to 47 Nauset Road, to look at the proposed swimming pool application which came in front of the Commission on March 19, 2013. Dave Michniewicz agreed with the delineation brought in front of the Commission from that time, and has since reviewed the report submitted by Greg Berman. Dave Michniewicz felt that the crux of the report was the distinction of whether a Coastal Bank has to be bordering a Coastal Beach versus the local regulation. Dave Michniewicz agreed with Greg Berman's opinion that under the local regulation this could be a Coastal Bank if it fit the criteria, and presented a large scale drawing to illustrate his point. Dave Michniewicz went over the resource areas shown on this plan, and that based on the location of Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Coastal Beach, and the Coastal Dune felt that the Coastal Bank was accurately depicted on the Ryder & Wilcox, Inc. site plan. David Lyttle agreed with Dave Michniewicz's explanation of the area, and noted that the delineation of record was in line with two other professional engineer's opinions. David Lyttle noted that a similar concern had been brought up during a Harwich Conservation Commission hearing regarding resource area locations, and Greg Berman said that he may need additional time to review how this land form related to Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage. Mike Ford asked that a copy of the plan shown by Dave Michniewicz be stamped in and included as part of the record. Greg Berman stated that there may be some grey area if is was considered a Dune or a Bank, and he was happy to look at boring logs, and specifically the 100-year flood zone, in relation to the town by-law. Judith Bruce asked if the plan which Dave Michniewicz presented could be submitted for the record. Dave Michniewicz felt that this was not a Coastal Bank, explaining that the Top of the Bank was at the 100-year flood elevation, and Ryder & Wilcox, Inc. had identified the most landward edge. Greg Berman explained that if this was a Dune, there would not be a Top of Bank, and Dave Michniewicz explained that he would scan a copy of the plan for the Conservation Department's records. James Trainor asked if it was known the approximate distance between the 100-year flood and the Toe of the Bank, and Dave Michniewicz said 15-20', and David Lyttle said at its closest point 17-18'. James Trainor said that if this could be delineated it may help in the future, and Steve Phillip inquired that on adjacent properties the slope was recognized, and how could it be different at this site. David Lyttle said the Flood Zone elevation 12' was seaward of the Bottom of the Coastal

Bank, if the Flood Zone touches the Top of the Bank it was a different landform than one where the Flood Zone touches the Bottom of the Bank. Dave Michniewicz said that if the Dune did not rise to elevation 12, in the case where the Flood Zone came across and intersected, then it would not be a Coastal Bank. Dave Michniewicz stated that based on the Orleans regulations the Flood Zone would have to intercept the face, and Steve Phillips inquired if it was a slumped area if it would change anything. Greg Berman explained that if it was a slumped area you would need borings to determine if it was slump over wind deposits or vice versa, if it was coming from the bank providing sediment to the beach, or if it was just wind deposits. David Lyttle noted that it was clear to him that this did not function as a Coastal Bank, and Greg Berman said that he only responded to the question of a slump, not of this specifically. Sean Riley of Coastal Engineering concurred with David Lyttle and Dave Michniewicz's opinions that this did not meet the definition of a Coastal Bank because in order to be a Coastal Bank it needed to touch Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, which this did not. Sea Riley did not feel this was a sediment source for the resource area. Greg Berman felt he needed to look at the town by-law again, and John Jannell suggested that the Commission encourage Greg Berman to look to the north and the south of this property where a Coastal Bank had been called out on either side. John Jannell asked how this property may function differently based on the location of the Dune and the elevation. and Judith Bruce felt that while on site it appeared to be a resource area, the Commission had to consider the technical definition as well as the WPA definition which did not consider this a Coastal Bank. Jamie Balliett asked if the borings would still be done, and David Lyttle said he would suggest it to his client. Dave Michniewicz appreciated that John Jannell brought up previous delineations where abutting properties had Coastal Banks, commenting that it was evident that future filings within this area would be best to receive additional scrutiny. Steve Phillips asked Sean Riley about his sediment source comment, and whether or not it would be a sediment source on the other side, and Sean Riley said it would have to have contact. Sean Riley said that it was either a Coastal Dune or a Coastal Bank by the Orleans definition, and that if borings were done, it would only confirm Dune material or Coastal material as the most landward resource, which would determine wither Coastal Bank or Coastal Dune. Steve Phillips asked how this changed when you went to the left of this subject property, and Sean Riley said that all that he was saying was that this face is not a Coastal Bank because it does not touch Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage. Judith Bruce said that she was hearing that Greg Berman wanted more time, and asked if borings would help in his assessment. Judith Bruce did not want the applicant to hire a consultant if it was not warranted. Greg Berman said that after he looked again and he determined that it was still a Coastal Bank, the borings may have value to determine whether the Top of the Bank was in that area or located higher along the slope. Greg Berman wanted to look over the material before he came to that conclusion, and Mike Ford said that after having listened to testimony, under Open Meeting Law, any exhibit utilized becomes part of the record, and asked that Dave Michniewicz sign and date the plan which he proposed to scan and submit to the Commission. Mike Ford explained that this made the record neater, and noted secondly, if the Commission were to rely on Greg Berman, that he needed to examine the bylaw. The opinion addresses the bordering question, and Greg Berman needs to look at the landform to determine if it has the characteristics to be called a resource area. Mike Ford explained thirdly that work was on-going, and when notice of this hearing was sent, there was an indication

that the conclusion of the hearing may result in a change in resource areas, with this change triggering jurisdiction. Any work currently being done on site was at the applicant's risk, and Judith Bruce said that they would not want to put a stop work order on the applicant for work which had not been approved, and Mike Ford explained that nothing had been determined at this time. Judith Bruce asked about the applicant potentially initiating new work, and Mike Ford suggested sharing with the applicant that there may be changes in Conservation Commission jurisdiction. John Jannell said that the Commission did notice the applicant with a letter dated May 16, 2013 about the potential change, and asked whether or not the applicant should be re-noticed and have the building permits referenced. Mike Ford said that additional notice was not needed at this time, but to put on the record continued notice. Mike Ford pointed out that the applicant's representative was here and could convey the Commission's concerns. Greg Berman suggested a get together with all of the engineers, and Judith Bruce asked about a 2 week continuance for Greg Berman to return to the Commission with his findings. Greg Berman felt two weeks would be sufficient.

MOTION: A motion to continue the hearing to June 18, 2013, was made by Jamie Balliett and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Enforcement Order/Restoration Plans

Kevin Doherty, 4 Duck Pond Lane. The discussion of a Restoration Plan required under an Enforcement Order for the alteration of land within 50' of the Edge of Wetland and an Critchett's Pond. Jamie Veara of Zisson & Veara, legal counsel for the applicant, and Theresa Sprague of Blue Flax Design were present. Theresa Sprague went over the proposed site plan, explaining that they were proposing to install 50 shrubs and a wetland seed mix by June 28, 2013. Theresa Sprague reported that the flush cut material was growing back, and Judith Bruce commended her on an excellent restoration plan, understanding why the proposed plan had taken time to develop. Theresa Sprague said that she was unable to get the soil or vegetation logs, and the delineation line shown on the plan was from Paul Shea. Judith Bruce asked how comfortable Theresa Sprague was with removing the fill on site. Theresa Sprague said that she felt comfortable removing the soil and turf within that area with a plan of record, and was relying on the BVW line. Judith Bruce inquired if she would wait until the final plan was produced to remove the rest of the fill and turf, and Theresa Sprague said yes. Theresa Sprague said that the Notice of Intent would include the removal of fill, creation of a buffer strip, and management of the fox grape. Theresa Sprague pointed out that the site plan did not locate all of the vegetation within the water, much of which was revegetating. Theresa Sprague pointed out that highbush blueberry and buttonbush had become healthier, and may discuss regenerative pruning of the winterberry to help it bounce back from it having been smothered by fox grape. Judith Bruce agreed that this was the case of a native species overtaking an area, and its removal was beneficial. Theresa Sprague hoped to include invasive management with the Notice of Intent, and James Trainor asked about the timeline for this plan. Jamie Veara explained that they were unable to make the Monday, June 3rd noon deadline, and hoped to make it by the next deadline. Jamie Veara was concerned about getting the plan right, and Judith Bruce noted that they were in a small window of ideal time for the restoration work to occur. Judith Bruce did not want to hold up the approval of this initial plan, and Jamie Veara had hoped that the Commission would approve the Plan presented today, and

from there move forward with the complete restoration plan under a Notice of Intent. John Jannell noted that a request to extend the deadline for the Notice of Intent had been received by the Conservation Department due to plans not being able to be completed in time. John Jannell noted that the Commission needed to discuss the mechanics of the Enforcement Order, which included the restoration of the 50' buffer, removal of the fill, and delineation of the wetland line. John Jannell met with Theresa Sprague in advance, noting that she is the Contractor of record, and suggested that the Commission strike June 3rd as a deadline for the Notice and include June 17th. John Jannell felt these two pieces could satisfy the Enforcement Order, which was an accepted restoration strategy, then a Notice of Intent which would allow the applicant to manage invasives over a 3 year period. Judith Bruce clarified that there was more than just the on-going management, the Commission was looking for additional habitat, and Theresa Sprague said that the Notice would address the fill, the creation of a buffer strip, and the management of invasives. Jamie Balliett inquired how much fill had been brought on site, and Theresa Sprague said she would do her best to find out. James Trainor suggested a photo record be done of what was regenerating naturally, and Theresa said that some had been taken and would include them in the Notice of Intent. Judith Bruce said the fines would be put off until the Commission received the Notice of Intent and they were able to have a full discussion. Theresa Sprague said that as part of the Notice of Intent there would be annual monitoring notes to keep the Commission aware of the progress, and Judith Bruce commented that the Commission had been increasingly looking at 5 year plans. Jamie Veara said so far they had talked about 3 vear plans, and the Enforcement Order mentioned 3 years. Judith Bruce noted that in some instances 3 years had not cut it for invasive species management, and Jamie Veara said they would consider a 5 year option and would discuss it. John Jannell recommended the Commission can act on this initial plan noting that this was not the delineation of record, and that this work was only one phase of work to be done. Jamie Veara asked that this also include an agreement to change the deadline to June 17, 2013, and the Commission agreed.

MOTION: A motion to accept the first phase plan dated 5-28-13 was made by James Trainor and seconded by Bob Royce.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Administrative Reviews

<u>Samuel Scialabba</u>, 32 Harbor View Lane. The after the fact removal of 2 pine trees and pruning of trees and shrubs. John Jannell explained that this application was received as a response to an Enforcement Letter. John Jannell spoke with the applicant, noting that the applicant would be filing a Notice of Intent for this work, and that John Jannell recommended the Commission deny this Administrative Review and permit the Conservation Administrator to write a letter on the Commission's behalf.

<u>MOTION</u>: A motion to approve this work was made by Jamie Balliett and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: 0-7-0; Motion Denied, Please file a Notice of Intent.

Gary Brusseau, 11 Center Place. The proposed removal of 4 Sycamore Maples and 3 Black Locusts. Work to be done by A to Z Treez. John Jannell explained that this was a modified application which he felt was work that he could recommend. Judith Bruce inquired if this was an after the fact application. John Jannell said no, that this was

something which came in as a much larger application which had been denied, and that the removal of these trees close to the house was something which he could recommend.

MOTION: A motion to approve this Administrative Review was made by James Trainor and seconded by Bob Royce.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Orleans Conservation Trust, 212 & 214 Brick Hill Road. The proposed removal of yellow flag iris along the northeast and northwest sides of Ice House Pond. *James Trainor recused himself*. Kris Ramsay of the Orleans Conservation Trust was present. Kris Ramsay explained the Orleans Conservation Trust held a Conservation Restriction over 214 Brick Hill Road, and the abutter at 212 Brick Hill Road was in support of this work. In 2010 they filed to removal the yellow flag iris to try and remove as much of the root mass. Kris Ramsay noted that this work would disturb the soil, and they would try to dig up as much as possible and remove the body of the root mass off site. Judith Bruce noted that this was the time for work to be done, and Steve Phillips asked if this work would be done from a boat or via wading. Kris Ramsay said this would be wading work.

MOTION: A motion to approve this work was made by Bob Royce and seconded by Steve Phillips.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Orleans Conservation Trust, 8 Dylan Way. The proposed removal of Autumn Olive from wetland buffer. James Trainor recused himself. Kris Ramsay passed around maps noting that the area was just off of Brick Hill Road. The lot itself was small, with a majority of the Autumn Olive in the buffer to be cut, spot treated by a Certified Pesticide Applicator, with a second round of removal to be conducted in the fall before the berries came out. Judith Bruce asked about the resource area on site, and Kris Ramsay explained it was a freshwater wetland. Kris Ramsay noted that although there were other invasive species on site, for the purpose of this Administrative Review Autumn Olive would be the focus.

MOTION: A motion to approve this application was made by Steve Phillips and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous.

<u>Molly Jenks, 25 Kenneth Lane</u>. The proposed annual request for property maintenance. Work to be done by applicant. John Jannell said this was an annual request for greenbrier control and recommended approval.

MOTION: A motion to approve this work was made by Bob Royce and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Edward Filardi, 29 Payson Lane. The proposed removal of storm damaged trees. Work to be done by Harrow & Seed. John Jannell explained that this work was discussed during the recent Certificate of Compliance request which had been turned down. John Jannell noted that in the denial letter for the Certificate of Compliance, he recommended that the storm damage work within this area could be handled outside of the Order of Conditions, and that Administrative Reviews should be filed for any

additional work outside of the scope of the Order of Conditions. John Jannell explained that the Order was for replanting, and that the Orleans Conservation Trust, who held a Conservation Restriction over the property, was in support of the removal of the two cedars which had been blown down and the two pitch pines by the path.

MOTION: A motion to approve this Administrative Review was made by Bob Royce and seconded by Steve Phillips.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Request to Use Conservation Properties

Paw Wah Point Education Walk 6/15/13 OCT 9-10:30am 20-30 People

MOTION: A motion to approve this event was made by Jamie Balliett and seconded by Judy Brainerd.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Christians Educational Walk 7/11/13 OCT 3-4:15pm 20-30 People

MOTION: A motion to approve this event was made by and seconded by **VOTE**: Unanimous.

Peck Property Educational Walk 8/3/13 OCT 9-10am 20-30 People

MOTION: A motion to approve this event was made by and seconded by **VOTE**: Unanimous.

Kenrick Woods Educational Walk 8/22/13 OCT 9-10:30am 20-30 People

MOTION: A motion to approve this event was made by and seconded by **VOTE**: Unanimous.

Kent's Point Educational Walk 9/3/13 OCT 10-11:30am 20-30 People

MOTION: A motion to approve this event was made by and seconded by **VOTE**: Unanimous.

Baker's Pond Educational Walk 9/14/13 OCT 10-11:30am 20-30 People

MOTION: A motion to approve this event was made by and seconded by **VOTE**: Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am

Respectfully submitted,

Erin C. Shupenis, Principal Clerk, Orleans Conservation Department