Conservation Commission Public Meeting – October 6th, 2016 Minutes

Time: 7:30 PM – 8:05 PM **Location:** Police Station

Members Present: Tom Ruskin; Robert Salter; Monica Tamborini; Jennifer Simon

Members Absent: Nelson Kessler; Tonia Bandrowicz and Marc Adler

The Conservation Commission Public Hearing was called to order at 7:45 pm.

330 PARADISE ROAD (PROPERTY LOCATION: MAP 34, LOT 17) (MASSDEP FILE 71-289) - REQUEST TO FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

David Hall, of Hanover Properties (Applicant) and Nate Cheal of Tetra Tech (Engineer on record) were present. Mr. Hall stated to the Commission that the project at 330 Paradise Road was completed and that it has satisfied the Order of Conditions. Mr. Hall continued to explain that the situation with Crowne Point Association had been settled and provided the Commission with proof and approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

T. Ruskin inquired about any recent complaints, to which Mr. Hall replied that there had been none.

T. Ruskin then asked about the drainage at the property. Mr. Cheal explained that water drains away from the site through three underground systems that were constructed.

There were no further questions by the Commission.

MOTION : by T. Ruskin to grant Certificate of Compliance, seconded by M. Tamborini, unanimously approved.

Fisherman's Beach and King's Beach Entrances (Property Location Metropolitan Park and Greenwood Ave Extension) MassDEP 71-303) - Notice of Intent

Peter Kane (Director of Community Development, Town of Swampscott) was present and representing the Town of Swampscott. Mr. Kane began by explaining that the Town of Swampscott is planning on improving beach access points at King's Beach and Fisherman's Beach. P. Kane explained that the designs for the project came from the volunteer Municipal Design Committee that wished to improve the aesthetics of the access points making them more usable and visible to residents.

P. Kane continued to explain to the Commission the improvements, materials being used, and the work to be done. He explained that each site is within 100' of the Coastal buffer, and that the only "fill" to be removed from each site would come from the

installment of the granite markers. Each granite marker P. Kane explained would have a 5-foot visible portion and a 4-foot underground portion. P. Kane also explained that the pallet of materials being used at each site will be very similar.

P. Kane went on to explain that the Fisherman's Beach access point already consists of pervious material. He also explained that the King's Beach access point is currently grass, but that the proposed design plan calls for pavers.

T. Ruskin asked if the proposed pavers will be permeable? P. Kane consulted with two members of the Municipal Design Committee (Rick Rawlins and Andrew Steingiser) along with Board of Selectmen member Peter Spellios. P. Kane explained that the pavers will be permeable.

P. Kane continued to explain the King's Beach improvements. P. Kane explained that the improvements on the proposal included adding low growth beach grass and that the limit of work would be at the crosswalk where it hits Metropolitan Park. P. Kane explained the location where the granite markers are going to be installed, along with where the pavers and beach grass are going to be installed as well. P, Kane mentioned the granite marker installation would be the similar to the method used at Beach Bluff Park. P. Kane further explained the design of the access point for King's Beach. Compact gravel would be used in places where there is not just only sand. The compact gravel as explained would be used to hold the pillars in place, even if there is wave action. P. Kane mentioned that there is less wave action at King's Beach but that the compact gravel would still be used. Rick Rawlins added that the compact gravel will make it easier to correct a pillar if they are to tilt.

M. Tamborini asked if all markers will be the same. P. Kane responded yes, and that there are seven site markers.

T. Ruskin continued the conversation to Fisherman's Beach.

P. Kane mentioned that the access point is closest to Humphrey Street where there is a parking lot. P. Kane mentioned that the asphalt currently at the access is all torn up, but that the rest of the ramp at the access point is also asphalt.

P. Kane then went on to describe the proposal. This includes the addition of permeable pavers from the Humphrey Street access point to the parking lot. The remainder would remain the same as the current situation, asphalt with sand on top, which as T. Ruskin mentioned is not permeable.

P. Kane continued to explain the proposed design which will include submerged granite planters with sea grass in them. These planters are added to help soften the area and will not prohibit vehicular traffic as P. Kane explained. He also explained the granite curbing on the sides of the access points would be six inches above the sand. To which T. Ruskin thought would not be an issue, and M. Tamborini stated that the curbing can help keep the grasses contained.

P. Kane then explained that he has been working with Kleinfelder, a sustainability engineering firm, and has come up with options to consider for the project. Some of these were: recommendation to use concrete pressed to look like pavers so that they do not get dislodged, and to not use granite curbing on the sides on the access points because in can create a channel and increase velocity of storm surge water.

T. Ruskin asked if P. Kane would be submitting the proposal with the recommendations? P. Kane asked the Commission if he can receive an approval for either one or the other.

T. Ruskin asked that the new proposal does not have the granite curbing, and the Municipal Design Committee members mentioned they could get rid of the curbing and just have grass.

T. Ruskin then explained the two scenarios regarding the proposals brought before the Commission. He explained the new proposal with recommendations from the sustainability engineer which included recommendations of getting rid of the granite curbing and concrete pressed paving. T. Ruskin then explained the second proposal which is the original plans explained by P. Kane. P. Kane added that if the granite planters would be removed from the proposal, that those spaces would be filled by plants.

The Commission explained that the Town could follow either plan presented, as long as they were to stay within their purview. The Commission continued to mention that they like the original proposal with the curbing. T. Ruskin asked if pavers or concrete are being used, and went on to explain that pavers are more permeable and stated that right now the site is not permeable, and asked if the proposed design would change the permeability at all? P. Kane explained they would not be. T. Ruskin also asked if the Town will be chopping up asphalt and using pavers, P. Kane explained they would not be. The Board mentioned that they like the idea of using pavers, but could go with second recommendation as well.

T. Ruskin explained the preference is for the Town to use the original design. T. Ruskin continued to ask that if improvements are done at other beaches where the Town will be changing permeability, that pavers at these sections will be used. P. Kane then asked the Commission's feelings on the proposed granite markers. The Commission stated that they liked them.

P. Kane asked the Commission if there would be special conditions or additions to which the Commission replied there would be none, just to allow the options.

MOTION : by J. Simon to approve work plan as submitted as well as the alternatives to remove the granite curbing and used pressed concrete in place of pavers and that the Town is to stay within their purview. Seconded by R. Salter. Unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 23, 2016 MINUTES.

The minutes from the previous meeting were then reviewed.

MOTION : by R. Salter to approve last meetings minutes, seconded by J. Simon. Unanimously approved.

M. Tamborini motioned to adjourn, R. Salter seconded, meeting ended at 8:03pm.

Andrew Levin

Assistant Town Planner