

**West Newbury
Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 19, 2012**

Commission Members Present: Dawne Fusco, Judy Mizner, Rick Spieler, Wendy Reed. Conservation Agent Jay Smith was also present.

Cont. Public Hearing --- Notice of Intent --- Louisa Tanner, 72 Church St. -- for the construction of a seasonal dock and associated site work at 72 Church St. The work proposed is within the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland and Merrimack River resource area.

Applicant's consultant presented plans and details of the proposed work. DEP comments concerned possible impact to the navigation channel and requested that the Army Corps of Engineers be consulted. The dock is to be installed from the river and removed seasonally to be stored off site. Compliance with the existing site order of conditions was reviewed and it was noted that the septic system work was completed outside of the approved seasonal time period, the wetland flags were no longer in place and that the required plantings had not been completed. Applicant was instructed to make sure that all contractors were aware of the order of conditions requirements and complied with them in future work. A site visit will be scheduled to review the location of replaced wetland flags and the corners of the dock platform.

Discussion: Louisa Tanner, 72 Church St. --- Plan change request.

Changes to the June 20, 2011 plan change were proposed. Applicant would like to add an 8 foot wide deck off the back of the house and a 4 foot cantilevered balcony off the garage. The locations of these changes will be reviewed during the site walk for the deck.

Discussion: Minutes

Minutes from the March 5, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Spieler moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Fusco seconded the motion. Motion passed (4,0).

Cont. Discussion: Dana Thompson, 56 Bachelor St. --- Cutting along the road by the Highway Dept.

The site walk showed that all cutting had been completed in the buffer zone and not in areas characterized by wetland soils. Whether this will impact the wetlands cannot be determined until seasonal regrowth of the area occurs. The procedures for DPW cutting adjacent to wetlands were discussed and the possibility of an annual plan submitted to the Commission considered. New guidance/regulations being considered by the DEP regarding buffer zone management will be reviewed by the Commission and property owner. The property owner will meet with Gary Bill to review the proposed extent of additional cutting needed to maintain road visibility in this area.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

The next scheduled Con Com meeting will be **April 2, 2012**