



TOWN OF

HARWICH

732 Main Street

Harwich, MA 02645

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(508)-430-7538 FAX (508)430-7531

HARWICH CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Wednesday June 3, 2020--6:30 P.M.

Present Remotely: Brad Chase, Stanley Pastuszak, Carolyn O’Leary, John Ketchum, Ernie Crabtree, James Donovan and Conservation Administrator Amy Usowski.

Call to Order

By Chairman Brad Chase.

HEARINGS

Request for the Conservation Commission to hold a Conservation Restriction

The Harwich Conservation Trust (HCT) seeks a Conservation Commission vote to hold a permanent conservation restriction on an approx. 6.65-acre parcel known as the “Sand Pond Woodlands” located at 0 Deacon’s Folly Road (tax map 46, lot F5). As HCT raises land-saving funds, HCT also seeks ConCom letter of support for HCT’s application to the State Conservation Partnership Grant Program.

Presenter: Mike Lach

Looking for the Town to hold the Conservation Restriction on the property and for a letter of support to the HCT for a grant application. **Motion to approve and provide a support letter by Brad Chase and seconded by Stan Pastuszak. Motion approved unanimously.**

Requests for Determination of Applicability

Krista Plante, 12 Aaron’s Way, Map 60 Parcel G7-5. New fence within buffer zone to a cranberry bog.

Presenter: Gregory and Krista Plante

The applicants would like to install a 5 ft. tall chain link fence 50’ from the edge of bog area. Usowski stated that although the work will take place in the 60’ no build zone, the area is all lawn and there is an existing road between the fence and the wetland. With the addition of mitigation plantings she can recommend approval. **Motion to approve with a negative 3 determination by John Ketchum and seconded by Carolyn O’Leary. Motion approved unanimously.**

Michael & Tara Horton, 290 Main St, Map 46 Parcel M5-4. Construct garage.

Presenter: John O'Reilly

The proposed garage will be 84' away from an isolated vegetated wetland. The plan has been revised to include 2:1 mitigation that includes planting of sheep laurel and highbush blueberry. They will also be cleaning up debris/brush and removing invasive vegetation and the applicant has agreed to no longer dump brush there. Two pines trees are proposed for removal and replacement with a scrub oak and gray birch. The mitigation area will be covered with loam and then seeded and allowed to naturalize. With the revised planting plan and a condition that storm water goes into drywells or French drains, Usowski recommends approval. The Commission would like the southernmost pine tree to remain unless it becomes a hazard tree and then it can be removed via Administrative Review. **Motion to approve with a negative 3 determination by Ernie Crabtree and seconded by Stan Pastuszek. Motion approved unanimously.**

Notices of Intent

Steve Hassett, 46 Indian Trail, Map 34 Parcel K3-2. New dwelling. **Motion to continue to July 15, 2020 by Brad Chase and seconded by Carolyn O'Leary. Motion approved unanimously.**

G. Rockwood Clark, 220 Long Pond Road, Map 102 Parcel K2. Remove walkway, steps, and retaining wall. Construct new walkway, landing, stairs, and stone wall. Plant area of erosion. **Motion to continue to June 17, 2020 by Brad Chase and seconded by John Ketchum. Motion approved unanimously.**

Extension Request

Rocco Orsini, 56 Purmackene Ln, Map 24 Parcel H17. Dwelling. **Motion to continue to June 17, 2020 by Brad Chase and seconded by Carolyn O'Leary. Motion approved unanimously.**

Discussion and Possible Vote

Management Plan for the Bogs at the Bells Neck Conservation Area-The area is quite dry and flooding the bog should be discussed with Mosquito Control. Chase will work on drafting a management plan. O'Leary would like more information regarding the lease HCT has for one of their bogs. Donovan would like to see a mowing schedule for the area.

Plover Update-An update was given on pair numbers, beach raking and the need for a barricade on Red River Beach.

Robbins Pond Area-Donovan expressed concern with ATV use and other damaging activities in the area and suggests asking for increased police patrol. Usowski has started a draft letter on this topic she will distribute.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Brad Chase and seconded by Ernie Crabtree. Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes Transcribed by Nicole Smith, Assistant Conservation Agent.