

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2016 7:30 P.M.
MEETING ROOM B MADISON TOWN CAMPUS**

Subject to approval: Minutes of the Meeting of March 14, 2016 - 7:30 p.m. - Meeting Room B- Madison Town Campus

Members present: Chairman Heather Crawford, Vice Chairman Christine Bouchard, L. Kealoha Freidenburg, Joan O'Neill, Richard Gedney, and George McManus.

Members absent: Clyde Burkhardt.

Additional attendees: Inland Wetlands Officer Robert Kuchta; Timothy Millhiser.

1. **Call meeting to order:** Chairman Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Call for additional agenda items:** None.
3. **Application Review: ZBA 8186+CSP. 57 Middle Beach Road West. Map 15, Lot 21; Owner/Applicant: 57 Middle Beach, LLC.** Demolish existing non-conforming non-FEMA compliant house and detached garage. Construct a new FEMA-compliant home with code-complying septic system and subsurface storm water infiltration.

Chairman Crawford noted that the applicants were not present; the new house has been set back on the property, and there will be a new code-compliant septic system and a new storm water infiltration system. The old septic system was located near the street, but the new one is closer to the beach; it would be preferable to switch the placement of the new septic system with the placement of the storm water infiltration system, according to Chairman Crawford. Location of the new septic system may have been governed by the health code, according to Inland Wetlands Officer Robert Kuchta; there is a concrete seawall between the septic system and the beach. Additional soil testing may be needed to find a different location for the septic system, according to Chairman Crawford. In terms of the critical coastal resources, having a septic system in it, even behind a seawall is a bad idea, Chairman Crawford stated. A letter to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which will hear the application the first Tuesday in April, from the Conservation Commission, would ask whether the two systems could be switched, seek clarification on a herringbone pattern in the plans, which is not defined or described adequately, and ask for an explanation of the impervious surfaces. Chairman Crawford stated that since the commission has three or four significant questions about the application, she proposed putting them into an email to Zoning Enforcement Officer John De Laura and the applicant's Professional Engineer Thomas A. Stevens, and perhaps Mr. Stevens would want to attend the Conservation Commission's next meeting to address the issues. The Conservation Commission's input on the application is in terms of the coastal site plan review, according to Chairman Crawford.

Commission Secretary O'Neill made the motion to allow Chairman Crawford to send an email to Zoning Enforcement Officer John De Laura and Professional

Engineer Thomas A. Stevens, with the Conservation Commission's questions about the application, and suggest that Thomas Stevens may want to attend the commission's next meeting. That motion was seconded by Commissioner George MacManus and unanimously approved.

Vote to send the email passed, 6-0-0.

IN FAVOR: Chairman Crawford, Vice Chairman Bouchard, and Commissioners Gedney, McManus, O'Neill, and Freidenburg.

OPPOSED: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

4. **Project/Issue Updates**

~ **Residential Lighting ~ Presentation Scheduled:** Chairman Crawford reported a town wide multi-agency program on the effects of residential lighting was being planned for April 5, 2016, however that date could change. She is expected to meet with Town Planner David Anderson to determine when this educational forum would take place.

~ **Boundary documentation:** Secretary O' Neill indicated that work is progressing on this project.

~ **Public Education/Outreach for 2016:** Chairman Crawford stated that she is meeting with the Garden Club, April 20, 2016, to provide educational outreach. Other educational outreach subjects and efforts include: residential lighting; invasive species; providing informational news releases and publicity to local newspapers; storm water management; climate change; and sea level rise. Chairman Crawford invited the Conservation Commission to provide more ideas.

~ **Update on potential new Commission members:** Chairman Crawford explained that Timothy Millhiser was in attendance as a potential new Conservation Commission member. Application forms for the Republican and Democratic nominating committees are available on the town of Madison website, for those interested in applying.

~ **Plans for Green-Up Clean-Up Day, April 23rd:** Chairman Crawford stated she is working on creating a handout to present that day to give to those in attendance; she is interested in placing invasive plants on it and asking participants to spot them during the day's activities. Commissioners also suggested distributing the conservation wristbands, pencils, and other items remaining from previous public outreach events.

5. **Budget spend-down for 2015-2016:** Chairman Crawford stated that Vice Chairman Bouchard had looked into the idea of buying indentifying apparel for commissioners to wear when on site visits. Vice Chairman Bouchard stated she received a quote of \$476 for 12 baseball caps and 12 bucket hats, all of which would have the town of Madison seal, as well as the words "Conservation Commission" imprinted on them. Fewer hats become more expensive, according to Vice Chairman Bouchard. It would be \$260 for 12 baseball caps, Vice Chairman Bouchard stated. Commissioner McManus stated that he does not think it would be a good idea to spend \$400 on hats; Secretary O'Neill stated she felt the same way; Chairman Crawford stated that perhaps they should investigate the t-shirt idea, again. Chairman Crawford stated that no later than May 1, 2016, the commission needs to have a final budget spend-down plan.

6. **Minutes:** Review and approve minutes of January 11, 2016

Three corrections were suggested and accepted for the January 11, 2016 minutes.

Commissioner Freidenburg made the motion to accept the Jan. 11, 2016 minutes, as amended, as follows: page 2, item 3, line three, change 390 Derry Hill Road to read 390 Dairy Hill Road; page 2, item 5, change 390 Derry Hill Road to read 390 Dairy Hill Road; and page 2, item 4, line 10, change the spelling of phragmities to phragmites. This motion was seconded by Commissioner McManus and approved.

Vote to approve the Jan. 11, 2016 minutes, as amended, passed 5-0-1.

IN FAVOR: Chairman Crawford, Vice Chairman Bouchard, and Commissioners Gedney, Freidenburg, and McManus.

OPPOSED: None.

ABSTAINED: Secretary O'Neill.

7. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Freidenburg made the motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.; it was seconded by Commissioner McManus and unanimously approved.

Vote to adjourn passed, 6-0-0.

IN FAVOR: Chairman Crawford, Vice Chairman Bouchard, and Commissioners Gedney, McManus, O'Neill, and Freidenburg.

OPPOSED: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlene H. Kennedy, clerk