



# CITY OF GLOUCESTER

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### MINUTES

WEDNESDAY December 4, 2013 – 7:00 PM  
City Hall, Kyrouz Auditorium  
Robert Gulla Chair

**Members Present:** Barry Gradwohl, Charles Anderson, Helen Shaw-Kwasie, Robert Sherman, John Feener, Robert Gulla, Ann Jo Jackson- **Absent**,  
**Staff:** Lisa Press, Agent, Pauline Doody, Recording Clerk

#### Items may be heard out of listed order.

I. 1-5 minutes, review of amended, updated or final information, status reviews, modifications, signing decisions etc.

#### 54 Rowley Shore Road: Discussion

##### **Mary Rimmer: Rimmer Environmental Consulting**

**Ms. Rimmer** stated the project was approved in November of 2011. Construction has started, but there has been a concern raised by a neighbor saying construction may not have been done according to the approved plan. John Judd has the "as built plan" and the building has been staked out. There is one minor change that is an additional 2x8 section built toward the coastal bank. There are no additional impacts. The applicant is looking for guidance from the commission whether this minor change can be done under a minor modification or if it needs to be an amended order of conditions.

**Mr. Feener** stated concern over the new bay window and any additional runoff it could cause.

**Ms. Rimmer** explained that the storm water basin which has yet to be installed should capture all water runoff.

##### **John Judd, Gateway Consultants**

**Mr. Judd** explained that the bump out is 2x 8. The area next to the bump out is all ledge and exposed bedrock. The site has increased in impervious with this project.

##### **Attorney Mark Nestor; representing the McNamara's of 29 Rowley Shore**

**Attorney Nestor** explained to the commission that the as built does not show a bulkhead as well as full basement. Neither was on the original plans. There is also a 2 foot drainage easement that runs the length of the property. In the special conditions nothing was mentioned about the easement. The concern is that there may be impacts to area drainage. The McNamara has appealed the building inspector's determination. It will be before the ZBA next week.

**Ms. Rimmer** stated that drainage easement is not part of the plan.

**Ms. Press** advised Ms. Rimmer to submit under a minor modification. She also advised to submit it to Paul Keene.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**III MINUTES REVIEW** – The board will review minutes at the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**IV Block 1\***

**A. NEW NOI: 49 Norwood Heights:** Submitted by Irving Rogers (Represented by TEC) for the repair of a seawall.

**Presenter: Rick Freiburg, TEC**

**Mr. Freiburg** stated the project is to reconstruct an existing seawall. He explained that over the past decade storms have eroded the walls. DEP approved the project saying that the wall can be restored to the same height. The drop from the scour line is 9 feet. The stones will be removed and stacked. Once moved, geo-tek fabric will be installed. At the toe of the wall larger boulders will be used and the core of the wall will be 12 inch stones with 2 to 5 foot boulders installed on top.

**Commission Comments**

**Ms. Press** stated she would like to see the plan reflect the new 2014 FEMA lines. She stated the wall may be in the velocity zone. She also asked for information of when and how long the wall was existed. She stated that in conversation the project wasn't about rebuilding the wall but refortifying it.

**Mr. Feener** asked for preexisting photos of the wall and would like to have the lines on the plan more defined. He reminded Mr. Freiburg that armoring a bank is not allowed unless it can be shown it was already done. He also suggested including in the plan a strip with plants between the wall and the lawn. The root system holds the soil better and filters the grassy areas before it gets to resource.

**Ms. Shaw-Kwasie** asked how the 2000 lb boulders will be moved on site.

**Mr. Freiburg** stated they will be accessed from the property.

The commission discussed methods of protecting the lawn and soils from the machinery and weight of the boulders being moved on site.

**Public Comment: None**

**Motion: To continue the project at 49 Norwood Heights, submitted by Irving Rogers for the repair of a seawall to December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Helen Shaw-Kwasie**

**Vote: Approved 5-0**

**B.) NEW RDA: Bushwell Pond Dam, 32 Stillington Drive:** Submitted by Gib Carey (Represented by Self) for the removal of vegetation from the dam.

**Presenter: Gib Carey**

**Mr. Carey** explained that in 2006 the former owner of the property had dam inspected and the state noted several deficiencies. Many of the deficiencies were taken care of,

except for the tree removal because part of the dam is owned by the state. It's been determined that the trees are on my property and not the state's. The trees need to be removed along with some vegetation. The state determines that any tree 6" in diameter needs to be removed. There are 4 pines and one beech tree. The state wants to see earth and grass on top of the dam.

**Commission Comments:**

**Mr. Feener** stated that the vegetation and tree removal should be based on species. For Conservation permitting it should be addressed by species. No machinery is allowed on the dam. If the zone is altered too much it will affect the naturalized area.

**Mr. Carey** stated that the trees are greater than 6 inches in diameter and the root ball is not being removed.

**Public Comment: None**

**Conditions:**

- **No machinery on dam**
- **4 pine tree's and 1 beech tree removal to be done from road**
- **Keep track of any pruning done by tree company that is in addition of tree removal**

**Motion: Negative determination for the project at Bushwell Pond Dam, 32 Stillington Drive, submitted by Gib Carey for the removal of vegetation from the dam.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: Approved 5-0**

**C.) NEW RDA: 14 High Popples Road:** Submitted by Otis Hendershott (Represented by Self) for the installation of a hot tub and plantings.

**Presenter: Otis Hendershott**

**Mr. Hendershott** explained the location of the walkway and hot tub to the commission. A planting plan has been submitted which includes the removal of bittersweet and new blueberry and raspberry bushes.

**Commission Comments:**

**Mr. Feener** requested that a 5" wide and 10 " deep trench be installed with filter fabric and ¾ inch washed stone to capture water overflow from the hot tub.

**Public Comment: None**

**Conditions:**

- **5" wide and 10 " deep trench been installed with filter fabric and ¾ inch washed stone to capture water overflow from hot tub**

**Motion: Negative Determination for the project at 14 High Popples Road for the installation of a hot tub and plantings.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: John Feener**

**Vote: Approved 5-0**

Robert Gulla joined the commission at 8:20 p.m.

**V. Block 2\***

**A.) Continued RDA 13-83: 6 Andrews Street:** Submitted by Jane Rose (Represented by self) for landscaping and site improvements. (Map 142, Lot 62 and 45)

**CONTINUED AT REQUEST OF APPLICANT TO DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**Motion: To continue the project at 6 Andrews Street, submitted by Jane Rose for landscaping and site improvements. (Map 142, Lot 62 and 45) to December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: Approved 6-0**

**B.) Continued NOI #28-2302 3 Aileen Terrace:** Submitted by Robert Crandall (represented by Wetlands and Land Management) for sediment removal and filtration of a quarry. (Map 137 Lot 2)

**CONTINUED AT REQUEST OF APPLICANT TO DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**Motion: To continue the project at 3 Aileen Terrace, submitted by Robert Crandall for sediment removal and filtration of a quarry. (Map 137 Lot 2) to December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: Approved 6-0**

**C.) Continued RDA: Mass DOT Rt 128 (Near 133 Exit):** Submitted by Mass DOT (Represented by Mass DOT) for the drainage repair and replacement.

**Presenter: Renata Welch, MASS DOT**

**Ms. Welch** explained the drainage improvements needed on the northbound side of RT128 near exit 14. She displayed picture of washout and pipe corrosion. The commission raised concern regarding the deteriorated land that has been used by the state as a staging area which has caused it to turn into an asphalt patch. The state is willing to work with the commission to restore the area. The plan is to pull back the wooded area 10-15 feet from the edge of the grass line. The gravel will be raked out of the grass and the area will be left to naturalize. It will then be outlined with boulders so no future encroachment will take place. The restoration work will be done in the spring.

**Commission Comments**

**Mr. Gulla** stated he would like the line to be moved 15 feet in. The 15 feet should start from the edge of the existing grass.

**Ms. Press** asked for a wetland roadside mix that could be planted to help naturalize the site.

**Mr. Feener** requested that signs identifying the area as state property should be installed. He also requested the line for the restoration be more defined for the plan.

**Public Comment: None**

**Conditions:**

- **Sign identifying property of state**
- **Boulders to be placed 15 feet in from existing grass line**
- **Wetland roadside mix to be planted in spring**

**Motion: Negative Determination for the project at Rt 128 (Near 133 Exit), submitted by Mass DOT for the drainage repair and replacement.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Robert Gulla**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: approved 6-0**

**D.) Continued REQUEST TO AMEND: 2 Wolf Hill Road:** Submitted by Chris Nunes (Represented by Self) for the addition of 10' of length to permitted dwelling.

**CONTINUED AT REQUEST OF APPLICANT TO DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**Motion: To continue the project at 2 Wolf Hill Road, submitted by Chris Nunes for the addition of 10' of length to permitted dwelling to December 18, 2013.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: Approved 6-0**

**VI. Block 3\***

**A.) Continued NOI #28-2305: 26 Beachcroft Road:** Submitted by Stephen Cefalo (Represented by Gateway Consultants) for the construction of a single family dwelling (Map 175, Lot 13).

**Presenter: John Judd, Gateway Consultants**

**Mr. Judd** stated granite posts and split rail fence has been installed to delineate the limit of construction. The raingarden has been moved to a more southern location. The front porch has been located 3 feet into the setback. A submittal regarding the oak trees and how they may be affected has also been placed in the file.

**Commission Comments**

**Mr. Feener** stated the letter didn't state why the trees should come down and felt it didn't address how and where the work will be done to prevent construction damage. He asked for the revised letter that refers to specific areas outlining details of prevention for each area. The letter should be attached to the plan.

**Public Comment: None**

**Conditions:**

- letter correspond to the plan and where the construction prevention will be on the plan.

**Motion: To approve the project at 26 Beachcroft Road, submitted by Stephen Cefalo for the construction of a single family dwelling (Map 175, Lot 13).**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Helen Shaw-Kwasie**

**Vote: Approved 5-0 with Mr. Gulla abstaining.**

**B.) Continued NOI #28-2254 31 Stanwood Avenue:** Submitted by Michelle Tallgrass (represented by Seekamp Environmental Consulting) for the construction of a single family house. (Map 230 Lot 157)

**CONTINUED AT REQUEST OF APPLICANT TO DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**Motion: To continue the project at 31 Stanwood Avenue, submitted by Michelle Tallgrass for the construction of a single family house. (Map 230 Lot 157) to December 18, 2013.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: Approved 6-0**

**C.) Continued NOI #28-2255 33 Stanwood Avenue:** Submitted by Jackie Misuraca (represented by Seekamp Environmental Consulting) for the construction of a single family house. (Map 230 Lot 158)

**CONTINUED AT REQUEST OF APPLICANT TO DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

**Motion: To continue the project at 33 Stanwood Avenue, submitted by Jackie Misuraca for the construction of a single family house. (Map 230 Lot 158) to December 18, 2013.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Robert Sherman**

**Vote: Approved 6-0**

**Motion: To adjourn**

**1<sup>st</sup>: John Feener**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Charles Anderson**

**Vote: Approved 6-0**

**\*Please note that items may be taken out of order.**

If you would like additional information regarding the review status of a particular item, please contact the Community Development Conservation Department at 978-281-9781.

Additional information can also be obtained on the Conservation Web Page at [www.gloucester-ma.gov](http://www.gloucester-ma.gov) Click Community Development for a link to Conservation.