

Town of Lunenburg Conservation Commission

Bob Pease, Chair
Mary Wilson, Vice Chair
Richard Tremblay, Clerk
Richard Bursch
Catie Childs
Michael Larouche
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Anna Petrie
Conservation Administrator

April 5, 2023
7:00 PM
Minutes
ZOOM REMOTE

Roll Call: BP, MW, RT, ML, CC, JV, RB

Absent:

Call to Order at 7pm

Announcements: N/A

Public Comment:

Ginny Albertson is present to discuss Earth Day activities at the Pollinator Garden for April 22nd & 23rd. GA states there will be a trash pickup, weeding, clean out culvert, and planting seedlings. GA is requesting chicken wire for fencing protection for the seedlings along with stakes to anchor the fencing. GA is requesting approval from the Commission to spend no more than \$150 on these supplies for the Earth Day activities.

MW/ML M/S to approve of the expenditure of \$150 from the Hawes Gift Fund for Pollinator Garden Earth Day activities. Roll Call vote, unanimous to approve.

Amanda Boyle is present to discuss encroachment issues at 950 Chase Road. AB states that when the home was bought by them, the shed encroachment was already present, and they do not currently utilize it. AB also states that it was requested that the shed be removed and would open this up for discussion.

BP asks confirmation that the shed is currently not being used?

AB confirms and states that the shed has been on the property 10-15 years before moving in.

BP asks if the Commission could be permitted to access the property to remove the shed?

AB confirms.

BP states that he will follow up with the town's attorney in this matter.

Minutes of previous meetings – March 15st, 2023 MW/JV M/S to approve. Roll Call vote, unanimous to approve.

Appointments/Hearings –

NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pursuant to MGL ch 131, s 40 as amended and the Town of Lunenburg Wetlands Protection and Municipal Bylaws a public hearing on a request for an Amended Order of Conditions by Brian and Cynthia Ritchie for proposed changes to a previously approved dock at 137 Flynn Road (DEP #208-1242).

Brian and Cynthia Ritchie to represent themselves on this amendment request. CR states that the currently issued Order of Conditions permits work for a retaining wall and a deck. CR says that the request is for the proposed deck to be changed to a screened porch that will be within the already approved footprint, smaller than the approved deck.

BP asks if there was an existing deck already there?

CR states that there was a deck, and it was taken down with a few timbers left.

MW asks if the approved deck was to be put on top of the existing foundation where the original deck was on?

CR confirms.

RT asks for the size of the newly proposed structure.

BR states 18 feet long 13 feet deep.

RT asks how that compares to the already approved deck?

BR says it was originally approved for 30 feet; 12 feet wide.

RB asks if this is changing from a semi-pervious to impervious structure?

CR confirms.

RB asks for the solution for runoff from the roof?

CR says there will be a metal roof installed with a gutter system with the addition of a dry well.

MW asks if there needs to be a number for storage for the dry well if requested?

BP states that typically it's included with the plans in regard to those types of systems.

MW states that she would like those types of numbers to be included in the plans.

BP asks for a straw poll for the commission's thoughts on moving forward with this application, either being approved under the contingency that the plans be updated or to be continued to the next meeting to present the updated plans.

RB is not prepared to vote on this application due to application specifics.

JV, CC, MW, RT, ML agree.

CR asks what should be added to the application.

BP states the plans/diagram shown should be updated to show dimensions of the new porch, steps, and drainage system.

MW adds to make sure to include volume of dry well as well.

CR asks to submit the new plans?

AP says that these plans can be emailed directly to her.

RB states to make sure the plans include any changes that are different from approved plans.

ML/RT M/S to continue hearing to April 19th meeting with updated plans. Roll Call vote, unanimous to approve.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

Topics not known 48 hours in advance of meeting
Update on Timber Rights Fund
N/A

Earth Day 2023

MW says there have been responses for Earth Day activities, with numbers looking like 30 participants. MW also requests budget support for another AD in the ledger for Earth Day.

JV/RB M/S to approve expenditure for \$85 from the Timber Rights Fund for the Lunenburg Ledger for an AD for Earth Day. Roll Call vote, unanimous to approve.

BP announces that the state has extended virtual meetings ability and asks for any comments from the Commission.

BP states that both Catie Childs and Rich Bursch both have expiring commission terms for reappointment. BP also states there has been new submittals of talent bank forms for new commissioners/associate member.

CC states that she will not be renewing her term.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on encroachment issues at:
950 Chase Road - discussed earlier in the meeting.
315 Lancaster Ave
110 Pleasant St, Lot 2 - AP states that she had visited 110 Pleasant to confirm that the encroachments were removed; AP confirms.
26 Mulpus Road

Grant Updates:
No Updates.

Budget Update
No Updates.

Hollis Road Residence:

ML states that he reached out to Montey Tech regarding working on the cabinets, though typically they do not work on properties with tenants.

BP states that Chris Ruth, facilities director, can be contacted in regard to having any more work done.

Administrative Determination:

N/A

Extension Request Permits:
N/A

Certificates of Compliance:
178 Peninsula Dr

AP states that the property was approved with an Order of Conditions and finished with an as-built in 2018. The home is on the market and the realtors are requesting a Certificate of Compliance in order to sell smoothly. AP also states that the site is stabilize.

RB/CC M/S to approve Certificate of Compliance. Roll Call vote, unanimous to approve.

Notice of Project Change:
N/A

ENFORCEMENT:
Violations (Enforcement Actions and Hearings)
EO 23 Cove Road: Will remain open until greenhouse is removed.
NON 205 Sunset, Beers lot: Seth Donahoe from Dillis & Roy along with property owner updated AP that plans a being finalized for submittal.

Open Space and Land Use
Howard Street Driveway
BP states there is a wait till June to hear back from DPW.

Timber Sales
N/A

Conservation land improvements

BP proposes plans for updating trails on Table Rock. BP suggests closing off certain trail ends

that do not continue along with developing new connector trails. BP also states some boardwalks might need to be installed for crossings.

MW states some trails that are not mapped historically might have been used by snowriders, though they are not currently maintained.

JV states that he is acquainted with an individual that is nearby this property that probably would be willing to help with this property.

MW states that there is a lot of evidence of ATV activity on Table Rock and asks for further discussion to solve this problem.

Committee Reports – Any Update

ML asks for updates on 4 Gabes Place in regard to filling the wetlands. ML also states that the grassland bird survey is possibly scheduled for the following week.

AP states that she was unaware of the concerns for 4 Gabes place and will be setting up a time to conduct a site visit.

Communications /Public comment

None.

MW/CC M/S to adjourn meeting. Roll call vote, unanimous to adjourn.

Adjourn 8:08 pm

Meeting schedule: Next meeting is April 19th, 2023 at 7:00 PM by Zoom platform