

WEST TISBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
June 28, 2016

Present: John Brannen, Prudy Burt, Whit Griswold, Binnie Ravitch, Peter Rodegast, Michael Turnell, and Tara Whiting

Staff Present: Maria McFarland

Also present for all or part of the meeting: John Clarke, Keith Estes, and Rez Williams

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 P.M. Tara Whiting, Chairman presiding.

Minutes: The minutes of the May 10 meeting were approved as amended. John abstained
The minutes of the May 24 meeting were approved as amended. John and Tara abstained.
The minutes of the June 14 meeting were approved as amended. John abstained.

Continued Public Hearings/Meetings:

James Pond/SE79-364: continued public hearing under the requirements of G.L. Ch.131 § 40, as amended, and the West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations to consider a **Notice of Intent** filed by the West Tisbury Board of Selectmen and Herring Warden for a project proposed at James Pond and Map 6 Lots 13 and 20. The project consists of work associated with the breaching the barrier beach at James Pond including dredging the associated meander for the purpose of restoring a fish passageway, placement of fiber rolls and salt marsh plantings.

Maria informed the board there was no new information to share. The scope of services for the surveying work that was approved at the last meeting will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

A motion was made and seconded to continue this public hearing to July 26, 2016 at 5:05PM. All in favor.

New Public Hearing:

Bylaw Revision: A public hearing under the requirements of Section VII of the Town of West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw for the purpose of approving one revision to the West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Regulations. The proposed amendment would change Section XVI (Vegetated Wetlands) by deleting the last sentence of the performance standard at Section XVI C 3, which reads as follows:

3. *The commission may not authorize the creation of a new pond in a vegetated wetland, as this would negatively impact the resource values protected by the Bylaw. The Commission may allow maintenance of existing ponds so long as such maintenance contributes to the resource values protected by the Bylaw. The Commission may authorize the excavation of other vegetated wetlands to create ponds or clear the edge of a pond if the project is designed to increase wildlife habitat diversity and to minimize groundwater or surface water loss.*

Prudy reported that the subcommittee decided to present one change to the Bylaw regulations at this time.

Public Comment: Rez Williams asked why the sentence was being deleted if a project would increase habitat diversity. Whit explained that the first and third sentences were conflicting. Deletion of the sentence would not prohibit the Commission from approving a project that would increase wildlife habitat diversity.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the revision. All in favor.

New Business:

Map 18 Lot 1/Margaret K. Littlefield Greenlands: In order to implement the vote taken on May 10 to prohibit commercial activity within Greenlands, a motion was made and seconded to revise the section on management of passive recreation on page 2 of the August 30, 1982 Greenlands Management Plan to include a statement that no commercial use of Greenlands is permitted. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

Old Business:

Map 31 lot 3/ Burt Well: Keith Estes and John Clarke were present to explain why the project to install a new well at this property has changed since it was approved in 2015. Prudy recused herself from this discussion because the property owner is her cousin.

A shift in the location of the new septic tanks in the front yard of this property requires that the well be shifted 10 feet closer to the bordering vegetated wetland in order to maintain the required separation setback under the Board of Health regulations.

Instead of a well point with a suction pump, it was determined that it would be better to have a drilled well. John does not expect a problem getting a large rig down the hill. They will use landing mats as needed. The work will be done at a time when there is a good 5 day forecast for dry weather and the ground is hard. If there is a problem getting the truck back up the hill, they will use a cable to pull the truck up the hill.

The trench for the waterline will probably be open for up to 3 days depending on the availability of the electrical inspector. A silt fence will be installed around the well site and water line trench.

Keith will submit a letter detailing the changes to the project.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change in location of the well from 85 feet to 75 feet from the bordering vegetated wetland. A new application is not required. All in favor.

Administrative:

Map 7 lot 91/SE79-43/27 Duck Pond Road/Certificate of Compliance for waterline (1988) was approved and signed.

Correspondence:

In: Map 1 Lot 50/SE 79-270/ Sundin/Tate Woods Hole Group Monitoring Report # 12

Out: Letter of Support for Tisbury Great Pond project for Bill Wilcox: Dukes County Conservation District Grant

Map 1 Lot 50/ SE79-358/Approval of Landscape plan

Map 6 Lot 7255 John Cottle Road/WTCC 2016-2:

Map 7 Lot 27 2/290 Lambert's Cove Road/Karen H. Campbell Trust/SE79-369:

Map 15 Lot 2.1/204 Indian Hill Road/Cournoyer/Letter

There being no new business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria McFarland
Board Administrator
APPROVED