

WEST TISBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 12, 2021

Present: John Brannen, Geraldine Brooks, Whit Griswold, Angela Luckey, Donna Paulnock, Binnie Ravitch, Peter Rodegast, and Tara Whiting-Wells

Absent: Michael Turnell

Staff Present: Maria McFarland

Present for all or part of the meeting: Kris Horiuchi and Reid Silva

Whit Griswold called the meeting to order at 5:03P.M. The meeting was held via Zoom in accordance with the Governor's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A sec.20.

Minutes: The minutes of the December 22 meeting were approved as revised. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor.

Public Hearing

Map 7 Lot 12/ SE79-421: a public hearing under the requirements of G.L. Ch.131 § 40, as amended, and West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations, to consider a **Notice of Intent** filed by Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering, Inc., on behalf of Keira A. Chassman for the installation of a new 5- bedroom Title V septic system to serve an existing single-family dwelling. The leach field will be located 75 feet from the edge of a bordering vegetated wetland. The property is located at 363 Lambert's Cove Road.

Reid Silva presented the project. The closest wetland is an area subject to flooding with overflow from Seth's Pond. The current system failed the Board of Health inspection required when a property is sold and must be replaced. The proposed location is dictated by site conditions and required setbacks for separation between wells and leach fields.

Commissioners Comments/Questions:

Geraldine asked if the new system would be an enhanced nitrogen reducing system. Reid replied that they are not proposing one and the BOH is not requiring it to be an enhanced system.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Tara made a motion seconded by John to approve the project as presented with the standard special conditions for septic system replacement projects. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor.

New Business:

James Pond/Order of Conditions/SE79-364: A written request for extension of the Order of Conditions for channel maintenance from Brad Chase of the Division of Marine Fisheries on behalf of John Hoy, Herring Warden dated January 11, 2021 was noted for the record.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a 3-year extension of this permit. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor.

Map 30 Lot 11.1/ 85 Red Pony Road/ Island Grown Initiative/ Whitestone/ Edey Foundation Grant: Members approved a letter to the Edey Foundation in support of a grant application by Island Grown Initiative for a trailer to haul manure from Whitestone Farm to the compost site at Island Grown Initiative's Oak Bluffs property. The grant would also pay for the cost of well monitoring equipment to be installed at the Island Grown Initiative property.

Old Business

Map 36 Lot 18/SE79-416 70 Taffy's Field Road: Kris Horiuchi, Landscape Architect for the property owner was present to explain a request to remove 6 pitch pines within the second 25 feet of the Buffer Zone and 3 pitch pines within the first 25 feet of the Buffer Zone that are in good health but present a fall hazard to the new house. The trees to be taken down will be flush cut and be replaced with native species in a location chosen by the property owner at a 1:1 ratio.

A final landscaping plan will be submitted to show where the replacement trees will be located.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the requested change without the need for a full amendment to the Order of Conditions. A letter will be sent as documentation of the approval. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor.

Tisbury Great Pond: Members briefly discussed possible next steps. Whit said he has spoken to Chris Murphy chair of the Chilmark Conservation Commission about forming a joint committee made up of appropriate parties from each town. Maria suggested that if the board would like this type of committee formed, a letter could be sent to the Board of Selectmen. This would be a group similar to the Mill Brook Watershed Management Committee but with members from Chilmark. Whit said he is willing to draft a letter to both Boards of Selectmen for further distribution to appropriate departments. No action required.

Administrative:

Bylaw regulations: Final revisions were reviewed and approved. The proposed changes will be sent to the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions for review and comment.

FY2022 Warrant Articles: A motion was made and seconded to approve warrant articles for the revolving fund authorization and funding for a project to remove the Parrot Feather in Pear Tree Cove. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor.

2020 Annual Report: A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2020 Annual Report as written. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor.

Finance Committee/Bylaw fees: Maria told the board she had an inquiry from the Finance Committee asking why revenues were down and why filing fees are so low. Maria provided the Finance Committee with an explanation. No action required.

Correspondence noted for the record:

In: Letter from Brad Chase, Division of Marine Fisheries dated January 11, 2021 regarding a 3-year extension of the James Pond Order of Conditions (SE79-364)
Map 39 Lot 7/SE79-354/ 208 Middle Point Road/2020 Monitoring Report
Map 39 Lots, 9, 10 & 11/SE79-415/234 Middle Point Road/2020 Monitoring Report

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria McFarland
Board Administrator