WEST TISBURY

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 9, 2023

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. Public participation will be via remote participation (Zoom) pursuant to M. G. L. Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021.

Present: Peter Rodegast, Mike Turnell, Geraldine Brooks, Fred Barron, Angela Luckey (5:20pm)

Absent: Donna Paulnock, Whit Griswold

Staff: Tara Whiting-Wells

Also present: Reid Silva, Phil Regan, Christopher Lyons, Racheal (Sorrentino?), Ernie Thomas, Noah Froh, Chris Alley, Chris Cottrell, Marilynn O’Connell, Bill Plapinger, Peggy Stone, David Small, Lisa Amols, Skipper Manter, Ilaria Rebay.

Minutes of 02/14, 02/28 & 03/28 all approved as corrected. All in favor.

**5:20 Map 35 Lot 7/ SE79-448**: 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 Peter and Rachel Sorrentino for a project located at 71 Carl’s Way.The project consists of the demolition of the existing single-family dwelling and guest house, and the construction of a new house, guest house, pool with decking and terraces, gardens, and septic system together with associated site work. Demolition work is within the Riverfront Area and the new construction is within the Buffer Zone to Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.

Peter reopened this hearing. Reid Silva updated the board that this project was in front of the planning board. That board is planning a site visit and is on the agenda for the May 22nd meeting. The applicant would like to continue until May 23rd. Geraldine made a motion and Fred seconded to continue the hearing until May 23rd at 5:20pm. All in favor.

**Old Business:** Chris Cottrell/274 Indian Hill Rd; Reid Silva said he was asked to put Brendan Fanuef’s wetlands plan on top of a plan that has all the ‘stuff’ on it. Reid said he has a rough location done but not a complete plan. Geraldine noted that there were letters from abutters concerned about the fact that there are three delineations as well as a reduction of the wetlands and wondering how this may have happened. What is the responsibility of the Con Com? Peter spoke with Doug Cooper who did the first delineation about 20 years ago. Doug said it was a conservative mapping due to all the vegetation. Peter noted that the Con Com would want a NOI and that would help inform what things get to stay. There was a conversation

about Chris being able to go into the garden or do anything by hand. Reid explained that the wetlands are flagged but he will not have time to go mark the 100’ etc. Abutter Bill Plapinger voiced his concerns about anything happening without all delineations in the field. He feels Mr. Cottrell has a ‘history of pushing the boundaries’ of all the rules. He encouraged the CC to do a site visit after seeing the plans and having everything in the field. Marilynn O’Connell asked how the wetlands have shrunk in 4-5 years? Peter reiterated from the Con Com that there is to be no activity in the garden for now.

**5:40** Apublic meeting under the requirements of the West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations, to consider a **Request for Determination of Applicability** filed by Schofield, Barbini and Hoehn Inc on behalf of Catherine Carlson. The project location is **119 Old Thumb Point Rd, Map 36 Lot 24.** The project is proposed construction of a porch on the footprint of the existing timber deck. Work is in the outer edge of the 100-year flood buffer zone.

Peter opened the meeting. There was a site visit with Peter, Mike, Fred & Angela. This is an application under the local by law only. This is a small camp with a wooden deck. The work proposed in approximately 90’ from the 100-year flood mark. There will be 3 new sonotubes placed and the deck will become a screened in porch. Peter noted that the grounds around this was native vegetation and this project looked low impact. Geraldine motioned for a negative determination and Fred seconded. Roll call vote; Geraldine -aye, Mike-aye, Fred-aye, Angela-aye and Peter-aye. Conditions; Mike asked that where the path goes ‘downhill’ to put up some erosion control measures. Limit of work shall be no further than 12’ and snow fencing is fine to use.

**Old/New Business**

Brandy Brow; proposed tree plantings. Tara had contacted the three heirs of Bob&Jean Woods. All are supportive of this project. Tara will send a note to Tim Boland and let him know.

Longview/Sachem Cir; building plan on hold until Reid/VLSE can get a wetlands survey done.

**6 pm Meeting with Park&Rec**

Park&Rec had a warrant article at the ATM for money to manually ‘lower the dune.’

-Discussion regarding the ability to get a permit to lower with machinery. Tara summed up that if the P&R wanted to proceed with that it would not be done for this season. (surveyor/NOI/meeting schedule)

-Questions as to whether or not EMS had any trouble with the dune.

-Peter discussed the survey work that Cody (VLSE) and Reid have been doing (voluntarily) 2Xs a year since 2016. The ‘dune’ has changed 3’-4’ in that time.

-Geraldine has heard a lot of requests for a handrail. Also asked about different kinds of matting. She is not supportive of any machinery altering the natural process and spoke about the bobcat that caused such a mess at James Pond.

-Peggy said they are working on the handrail and hopes it will be permanent as well as the rope all the way down to Coca-Cola to keep people out of the dunes.

-Discussion about different access points and the limitations of those.

-All agreed to reach out to Greg Berman again and see what the next steps may be. (Tara will do). Tara will also find the language in the wetlands protections act that speaks to dunes and send it along.

-P&R will organize a volunteer day. The sand is being pulled/pushed down hill. They try and get boardwalk in before Memorial Day but beach does not open until June 24th. Mike agreed to be there to help supervise.

-David Small shared a plan as to where he thinks the sand should be move to on the beach side. Tara asked him to send along a copy of that plan.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm