

Conservation Commission Public Hearing – September 27, 2018

Time: 7:30 PM – 8:10 PM

Location: Police Station, 2nd Floor

Members Present: Tom Ruskin, Chair; Toni Bandrowicz, Vice Chair; Jonathan Grabowski; and Randall Hughes (alternate)

Members Absent: Colleen Hitchcock; Monica Lagerquist; Monica Tamborini; Jennifer Simon; and Laura Spathanas (Selectmen Liaison)

Others present: Representatives of 15 Laurel Road and ___ Forest Avenue.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

1. Approval of August 30, 2018 Minutes

The Commission approved the August 30, 2018 minutes by unanimous vote.

2. Notice of Intent (15 Laurel Road)

Filed by Margaret & Steven Copenhagen for construction of a new terrace, walkways, outdoor fireplace, fence and new plantings within 100 feet of an inland and /or coastal wetland resource area at Map 18, Lot 12-15. The owners had previously filed a RDA for this project and, due to the scope of the project, the Commission had issued a positive determination at the August 3, 2018 public hearing. The owners subsequently submitted a NOI for the project. Based on the presentation and information provided at the previous hearing, the Commission voted unanimously to issue an Order of Conditions containing the standard conditions.

3. Request for Determination of Applicability (___ Forest Avenue)

Filed by Town of Swampscott for a project to build brick dugouts at the Varsity Baseball Field in the same places as the current bench areas are located. Because the project is within the 100-foot buffer to a wetland, it is within Commission's jurisdiction, but because the footprint of the field will not be enlarged, and the limited work intended will not affect the resource with the erosion control proposed, the Commission issued a negative determination, but will require the addition of erosion control measures as conditions to the determination.

4. Beach Marker/Entrance.

One of the Commissioners noticed that the Beach Marker/Entrance work that has been undertaken by the Town under an Order of Conditions issued by the Commission, used non-native plants that are considered invasive in other states, instead of using native plants. The Town has been contacted and will be addressing this issue. It was suggested that a letter should be sent to the Town advising them to use native planting in the future Beach Marker/Entrance work that is planned.

5. Update on Other Matters

T. Bandrowicz gave updates on other matters including a conversation she had with the Town Administrator re the need for a Conservation agent, efforts to seek a grant for invasive species removal, Ewing Woods encroachment at 96 Kensington, and a pre-construction site visit she performed at 75 Puritan.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.