

Location: Rockport Town Hall, Meeting Room A

Present: Larry Neal/Chairman, Alan MacMillan, Rob Claypool, Charlie Allen, Bailey Coates/Student Member, Andrea Nichols/ Secretary, GERALYN Falco/Conservation Agent. The Rockport Conservation Commission (RCC) is a five member volunteer board. Four voting members are present.

Absent: MaryAnn Lash, David McKinnon/Associate Member, Mel Michaels/Associate Member

Citizen Inquiries:

Bill Manuell, for 11 Old Garden Road (DEP 62-0698) – requests minor changes to OC plan; had submitted request in writing explaining changes; house footprint not to change. Mr. Claypool moves to allow modifications as presented; Mr. MacMillan seconds Vote 4:0.

Agent Falco, for DPW – starts discussion of snow disposal into ocean; DPW received permission from DEP and is in constant contact; areas include: Back Beach, T-Wharf and Granite Pier.

Minutes:

01/21/15: Mr. MacMillan moves to approve minutes as written; Chairman Neal seconds. Vote 4:0.

01/28/15 (Executive Session): Mr. Claypool moves to approve minutes as written; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0.

New Hearings

NOI 62-0705, Roger Caro, 35 Mt. Pleasant Street (Map 36/Lot 23). *Repair dry laid granite seawall within 100' of coastal bank and within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.* Applicant is present. Bill Manuell (Wetlands & Land Management) is also present and makes presentation; project is repair of dry-laid granite wall that is bulging; will use excavator to reposition rocks, create infiltration trench and backfill yard; wall to stay in existing footprint but will add one more stone to raise height 18"-24"; also plan to construct wooden stair to shore with deck overhanging wall and constructed during wall restoration; resource areas include rocky intertidal shores, coastal bank and land subject to coastal storm flowage; surveyor will send stamped plan. RCC: asks if weep holes will be included (dry-laid wall allows water to flow through); wants to see wall and schedules site visit for Saturday, February 21, 2015; is concerned about connection to neighboring walls (applicant to work on inner sections of his wall without impacting neighbors); asks if stairway might require Ch. 91 license; asks who owns wall; wants more detail on stairway; asks if stairway will be removable; asks about sedimentation control (tarp over area or boom in water). *Laura Hallowell, 37 High Street* - informs RCC that knotweed was removed from yard and rhizomes and plant parts still in soils; is concerned about proper disposal so as not to spread this invasive plant. With permission from the Applicant, hearing is continued until March 4, 2015 pending site visit. Hearing is continued. **The digital voice recording of this hearing will be retained until all appeal periods have passed and all appeals resolved.**

RDA 15-02, Christian L. Murch, 16 Bearskin Neck (Map 36/Lot 100). *Construct a bulkhead within 100' of coastal bank and within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage.* Mr. Murch is present and makes presentation; would like to install bulkhead for access to basement; explains that

coastal bank is across street behind buildings 60' from area of work. RCC asks about grade elevations and water in basement; suggests raising entrance to keep water out of basement. Mr. MacMillan moves to close hearing; Chairman Neal seconds. Vote 4:0. Mr. Claypool moves to issue negative determination, category number 3 with conditions; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0. **Hearing is closed. The digital voice recording of this hearing will be retained until all appeal periods have passed and all appeals resolved**

Other Business

- Knotweed Removal Report (2014) – Rockport Garden Club – Laura Hallowell & Nan Blue are present to discuss 2014 Annual Report; power point presentation shows “before and after” pictures of knotweed removal as well as data collected; give heads-up that Millbrook Meadow Committee will conduct invasive species removal before they work on pond and meadow restoration and will come to RCC for permit; ask for approval of Restoration Plan at the Headlands; request reimbursement for 2014 and allocation of up to \$300.00 from RCC for 2015 removal activities at Mill Pond and Headlands. RCC suggests publishing Garden Club’s knotweed removal activity including data. Chairman Neal moves to approve Headland Restoration Plan; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0. Chairman Neal moves to reimburse up to \$300.00 for knotweed removal activities in 2015; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0.
- Earth Day - choose date & think about RCC activity - RCC chooses Saturday, April 25, 2015; will choose activity later.
- **Request for Certificate of Compliance**, ROC 1-01, Richard & Ann Grieco, 11 Gap Head Road (Map 30/Lot 4A). Mr. Claypool moves to issue CoC; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0.
- **Request Extension to Orders of Condition**, DEP 62-0488, Patrick Fortin, 38 Long Beach (Map 21/Lot 13). Chairman Neal moves to deny extension; no second on this motion; discussion ensues. Chairman Neal moves to grant extension until June 15, 2015 with note that non-compliance enforcement will follow if work not complete by that date; Mr. MacMillan seconds. Vote 4:0.
- Review for approval Declaration of Restriction South Street (Map 28/Lots 1&2). Mr. MacMillan moves to approve Declaration of Restriction as presented; Chairman Neal seconds. Vote 4:0.
- Letter sent to UMass Student reaffirming the parameters of his study.
- Executive Session to discuss land acquisition; Chairman Neal moves to go into Executive Session (9:00 p.m.) to discuss Land Protection, Mr. MacMillan seconds. Unanimous affirmative roll call: Mr. MacMillan, Mr. Claypool, Mr. Allen, Chairman Neal.

Mr. Allen moves to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Claypool seconds. Vote 4:0.

9: 55 PM

RCC ► Meeting adjourns 9:55 PM ◀ RCC