GOSNOLD CONSERVATION COMMISSION September 9, 2022 10:30 am via Zoom and in person at Town Hall

Present:

<u>Conservation Commission</u>: David Warr, Chairman; Wyatt Garfield, Leo Roy, Lisa Wright <u>Also in Attendance</u>: Gail Blout

The meeting of the Town of Gosnold Conservation Commission (GCC) was called to order by Chairman David Warr at 10:41 am.

1. Approval of June 13 and July 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Leo Roy made a motion to accept the June 13 and July 8, 2022 meeting minutes as written and distributed. Lisa Wright seconded the motion. All four GCC members voted yes. The motion carried.

Chairman David Warr observed that newly appointed Conservation Commission member Chris Hart was unable to join today's meeting, and said that he would enjoy welcoming him to our next meeting.

2. Sanford/Garfield Dock Repairs

Chairman David Warr said that the Commission was in receipt of a letter from Win Sanford and Wyatt Garfield seeking approval for the replacement of moorings and chain with new pilings to secure their existing, permitted dock on the Neck. Mr. Warr said that he was okay with the concept, but said that he would be more comfortable if a Notice of Intent (NOI) was filed. Mr. Roy said that he applauded the applicant for coming before the Commission with this project, as many such projects have proceeded without regulatory approval. He said that the project had recently come before the Town's Harbor Management Committee (HMC), which had approved the replacement project. Mr. Roy said that the HMC had approved the current configuration back in the 1990's, to avoid the need for pilings, but he agreed that replacing the moorings and chain with pilings would be better for the harbor environment, if the applicant was willing to go through the lengthy Chapter 91 process to permit the pilings. He noted that the float arrangement was an existing structure, said that requiring a costly, engineer-prepared NOI, with its Registry of Deeds filing for the Order of Conditions (OOC), would provide no additional environmental protection, and that the proposal would result in improved benefit to the Island's environment.

Chairman David Warr said that he wanted something more formal than the letter application. Mr. Roy noted that the request to the HMC had included a sketch plan, which was helpful to their review. Chairman Warr suggested that the applicant submit a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) before the GCC's next meeting on October 14, so we could properly address this request. Wy Garfield, representing the applicants, agreed.

Chairman David Warr said the GCC should buy a drone to fly over the Town in the offseason to see what was going on, and to identify possible Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) violations. Mr. Roy replied that we didn't need to do that, as he understood that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was already doing aerial reconnaissance, of which the GCC could benefit.

3. Review Open Projects

Chairman Warr said that Mr. Roy had circulated for our consideration the most recent draft of the "General Provisions for Incidental Repairs" that we had discussed for the past two years. Mr. Roy said that the Guidelines represented a common sense approach to simplify the regulatory process for simple, low impact activities. Chairman David Warr said that in the past the GCC was not always notified when work in the Resource Area was done. He said that the GCC had sometimes been told that a structure in question was licensed, but that the GCC never received a copy of the license. Mr. Roy noted that the current draft of the guidelines required that the Chapter 91 license for the structure being maintained be supplied to the GCC as part of the application. Mr. Warr said that he thought that was appropriate, and that he was okay with the guidelines as written. He said that it was consistent with what the GCC was trying to do, to make compliance with the regulations simpler.

Leo Roy made a motion to accept the "General Provisions for Incidental Repairs" as written and distributed. Lisa Wright seconded the motion. All four GCC members voted yes. The motion carried.

Chairman David Warr suggested that we make the Guidelines widely available, and to post them on the Town's website. Ms. Wright agreed.

4. Old Business/ New Business/ Public Comment

Chairman David Warr said that Diglt should replace the damaged silt socks at Four Corners and along Bayview. Mr. Roy replied that he would ask Highway Surveyor Seth Garfield to work with Diglt to correct the erosion controls. Chairman David Warr suggested Friday, October 14 at 10:30am by Zoom and in person for our next meeting.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09am.

Respectfully Submitted, Leo P. Roy

Minutes approved November 14, 2022