

GOSNOLD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 14, 2022
10:30 am via Zoom and in person at Town Hall

Present:

Conservation Commission: David Warr, Chairman; Chris Hart, Leo Roy, Lisa Wright

Also in Attendance: Gail Blout

The meeting of the Town of Gosnold Conservation Commission (GCC) was called to order by Chairman David Warr at 10:42 am.

1. Approval of September 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chairman David Warr welcomed newly appointed Conservation Commission member Chris Hart to the meeting. Mr. Warr said that he didn't believe that we had any minutes to approve. Mr. Roy stated that the minutes to our September meeting had been circulated to the GCC members on September 13. Mr. Warr said that he hadn't reviewed them, and requested that we defer approval to our next meeting. Mr. Warr said that he was unhappy that the minutes to our previous meetings had been posted on Cuttyhunk Chatter. He requested as Chair that this not be done in the future.

2. Sanford/Garfield Dock Repairs

Chairman David Warr said that the GCC put this request from Win Sanford and Wyatt Garfield for approval of the replacement of moorings and chain with new pilings to secure their dock on the Neck on the agenda, but there was no one in attendance to present the project. He said that we were in receipt of some sketches of what is being proposed. Chris Hart said he was familiar with the proposal. Mr. Roy stated that this project had come before the Harbor Management Committee and was approved, with referral first to the GCC, and subsequently to the state for a Chapter 91 license. Mr. Warr said that he agreed that replacing the chains with pilings would be better for the environment, but that he wanted to hear from the applicants what's being proposed. He repeated his request from our last meeting that the applicant file a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) and attend our next meeting, so that we can properly address this request. Lisa Wright said that she would notify the applicants.

3. Review Open Projects

Chairman Warr said that he had been on the island all summer, observing the work of the Fuel Farm cleanup and the Water and Stormwater projects, and that there have been some issues with the projects. He said that he has raised some of his issues at the Selectboard meetings, much to the chagrin of one of his GCC colleagues. Mr. Roy replied that he

welcomed the discussion in this venue, which he said was the appropriate one in which to discuss Conservation Commission matters. Mr. Warr said that he would continue to speak about Conservation Commission matters at the Selectboard meetings and would refuse to distinguish between his comments as Chair of the GCC and his personal opinions.

Chairman Warr said that he was concerned about the huge boulders at the stormwater outfall pipe next to Four Corners which he said were the size of small cottages. He said that he was told that they were there to stop debris, such as seaweed, from entering the pipe, but said that he felt that it could be accomplished with smaller stones. He said that the erosion and sedimentation controls (ESC) had failed along the road from Four Corners to the Marina, and that there was gravel and other sediment in the resource area. Mr. Roy said that he had requested that Dig It Construction repair the ESC and restore that area when they replaced the loam along the road sides. Mr. Roy said that the appropriate time for final GCC review of the project was in response to a request for a Certificate of Compliance.

Mr. Hart said that he had looked at the stormwater outfall area and took some pictures. He said that he agreed that the big boulders looked out of place, but that they, along with the rip rap, would decrease the velocity of the water leaving the pipe and entering the harbor. He said that he hadn't seen the Order of Conditions for the project, but that once the vegetation grew back it would look better. Mr. Warr said that he didn't have a problem with the rip rap, but that there was nothing in the Notice of Intent about big boulders being placed there. Mr. Roy said that the boulders were not detrimental to the resource area, and that Mr. Warr's objections were purely aesthetic, not environmental. Mr. Warr replied that his concern was that they were placed in the resource area without GCC approval.

Chairman Warr said that overall he was impressed by the work of the Town's contractors Dig It Construction and Pawtucket Hot Mix Asphalt, and their responsiveness to issues as they came up. He said that he also appreciated the good communication to residents about the project activities from Dale Lynch and Leo Roy, and that the project would be a great improvement to the island. Chairman David Warr said that he was looking forward to visiting Naushon next spring to review the Certificates of Compliance for the projects there.

4. Old Business/ New Business/ Public Comment

Chairman David Warr suggested Monday, November 14 at 10:30am by Zoom and in person for our next meeting.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11am.

Respectfully Submitted, Leo P. Roy
Minutes approved November 14, 2022