

MINUTES OF THE NEW CASTLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 1st, 2020 – 5:00 p.m. (Recreation Building)

Fence and landscaping within 50 feet of wetland buffer zone – Heidi and Rick Reilly, 29 Shaw's Circle, Map 13, Lot 10.

Landscaping within 100 foot shoreline buffer zone – Marilyn and Kenneth Walker, 32 Walbach Street, Map 18, Lot 57.

Landscaping within 100 foot shoreline buffer zone – Marcia Beckett, 4 Quarterdeck Lane, Map 9, Lot 16.

Members Present: Conni White, Chair, Lynn McCarthy, Vice-Chair, Beth Barnhorst, Tom Chamberlin, Ron Pascale.

Members Absent: Darcy Horgan, Bill Marshall, Jim Rini, Brandon Tanguay.

Others Present: Shane Emerson, Artisan Grounds Landscaping.

Chair White called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Barnhorst made a motion to approve the June minutes as submitted. Mr. Pascale seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Applications.

A. Fence and landscaping within 50 feet of wetland buffer zone – Heidi and Rick Reilly, 29 Shaw's Circle, Map 13, Lot 10.

Chair White, Beth Barnhorst, Ron Pascale, and Tom Chamberlain participated in a site walk at 29 Shaw's Circle. Ms. Barnhorst confirmed that the proposed fence will not exceed six feet and will be installed on the lot line. Chair White confirmed that the creeping junipers will be planted along the wetland upland. She also recommended to cut the bittersweet before installing the fence. Ms. Barnhorst recommended planting pachysandra along the northwest side of the wetland, which the homeowner will consider depending on the amount of sun in that area. Pavers will be installed from the driveway to the granite steps at the front of the house. The impervious lot coverage is well under what is currently permitted, and the driveway is outside the 100 foot buffer.

Mr. Pascale motioned to approve the plans dated 9/1/2020 for the Reilly residence at 29 Shaw's Circle, Tax Map 13, Lot 10, for the section of fence and walkway from the house to the driveway. Mr. Chamberlin seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

B. Landscaping within 100 foot shoreline buffer zone – Marilyn and Kenneth Walker, 32 Walbach Street, Map 18, Lot 57.

Chair White, Ron Pascale, and Ms. McCarthy participated in a site walk with Shane Emerson of Artisan Grounds Landscaping. The submitted plans show the removal of old, scraggly arborvitae lining the driveway and replacement with young, low growing arborvitae and plants to the stairs. There are currently arborvitae on the back left and right sides of the house, along with crabapple trees. Panels on the fence would be removed and replaced with a similar kind. Chair White noted that the 100 foot line marking the buffer is not on the plan. It was noted that any work occurring within the 100 foot buffer has to go to the NHDES for approval. Most of the tree cutting would likely occur outside of the buffer zone. The trees that would be cut are unsightly and old, and their removal would help with access to the fence.

The plan to remove arborvitae located above the stone wall bordering the road was a concern for the Conservation Commission, and was not part of the approval of the plans presented. The designer said this work would be in a separate proposal. Mr. Pascale suggested modifying the drawing to remove the plan to take out these arborvitae, but it was decided to make note of this in the conditions of approval instead. The approval would not include removal of the arborvitae on the plan above the stonewall bordering the road on the northeast side of the property. If the homeowners wish to remove those arborvitae in the future, they will need to come before the Commission again.

Chair White motioned to approve the plans dated 3/27/2020 for Marilyn and Ken Walker at 32 Walbach Street, Tax Map 18, Lot 57, provided that the arborvitae on the northeast side of the property remain intact. Ms. Barnhorst seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Landscaping within 100 foot shoreline buffer zone – Marcia Beckett, 4 Quarterdeck Lane, Map 9, Lot 16.

Ms. Beckett presented the plans for her home at 4 Quarterdeck Lane. The Commission discussed the proposal of the installation of three steps in the retaining wall going down into the wetland. It was recommended that the homeowner contact Eben Lewis at the NHDES to determine if a permit would be required to do this and to repair the wall that is falling apart along the edge of the wetland. The impervious lot coverage is currently 24.7%, which is 2,873 square feet. After the installation of the steps, the impervious coverage would be reduced to 23.4%, which includes the proposed walkway.

Ms. Barnhorst motioned to approve the plans dated 7/27/2020 for 4 Quarterdeck Lane, Tax Map 9, Lot 16, based on the proposal by J.L. Young Landscapes for the front walkway and landscape plans, as well as the installation of sod and lawn. The stepping stones and stairs leading to Lavenger salt marsh as drawn on the proposal are not approved. Chair White seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2. New Business.

None.

3. Unfinished Business.

None.

4. Announcements.

None.

5. Adjourn.

Ms. Barnhorst moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Pascale seconded. The motion carried, unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Rumph
Secretary