

APPROVED

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MINUTES OF THE NEW CASTLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, October 2nd, 2018 – 5:00 p.m. (Macomber Room)

Members Present: Lynn McCarthy, Chair, Conni White, Vice-Chair, Rebecca Audet, Beth Barnhorst, Brian Mack, Jim Rini.

Members Absent: Darcy Horgan, Bill Marshall, Ron Pascale, Brandon Tanguay.

Others Present: Kirsten Howard, New Hampshire Coastal Program, Steven and Patricia Wilson, 27 Colonial Lane.

1. Approve Minutes.

Ms. McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:11p.m. and asked attendees to sign in. Ms. Barnhorst made a motion to approve the September minutes as amended. Ms. Audet seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Work Session / Applications.

Steven and Patricia Wilson, 27 Colonial Lane (Tax Map 17, Lot 15), were present to discuss the addition of an outside stairway within the 50 foot buffer of a Class B wetland. The Wilsons have been advised by Town Building Inspector Don Graves to request a hearing before the Conservation Commission. Mr. Wilson noted that he and his wife believe that their request would be considered a very minimal disturbance.

The Wilsons are seeking to place two new sonotube footings and replace two existing footings that lie within 50 feet of the wetlands. The two new sonotube footings would support an exterior stairway and landing for a proposed addition above the existing garage. The replacement footings would support a rebuilt breezeway that connects the garage and house. Mr. Wilson estimates that the sonotubes would be approximately 20 feet away from the wetlands.

The sonotubes would be 10 inches in length, at a depth of 48 inches. Each tube would require excavating approximately 0.08 cubic yards of material, which would be done by hand. The temporary impact during the excavation would last an estimated three to five days. The excavation site would be appropriately contained, and any excess material from the site would be removed.

Mr. Wilson noted that the permanent impact of these plans would be the two 10 inch concrete footings, which would be approximately four to six inches above ground level, to support the stairway and landing, and the two 10 inch concrete footings approximately one to two inches above the surface, to support the covered breezeway. There would be no alteration to the existing grade, and the site for the new sonotubes would remain covered by grass.

Mr. Wilson stated that Mr. Graves recommended installing an external staircase on the proposed addition above the garage for an egress in case of an emergency. The bottom-most stair would

have a footpad that could either be set up contained, or be set into the ground at ground level. Gutters are currently on the garage, and Mr. Wilson confirmed that he would keep these gutters and add others to the proposed addition if necessary. He also noted that he and his wife have recently come before the Planning Board and successfully adjusted their lot line with abutter Sylvia Marple, which allowed the Wilsons' lot to comply with the setback requirements on that particular side of their property.

Mr. Mack and Mr. Rini both felt that the proposed installation of two sonotubes and replacement of two other footings would have no impact on the wetlands during the project or after the installation and replacement. Other Commission members agreed.

Mr. Rini motioned to recommend to the New Castle Planning Board the approval of the Wilsons' plans, dated August 23, 2018, for the installation of two (2) sonotubes as seen on the submitted plans, record number 5345-2708, and for the replacement of two (2) concrete support beams as described in the same plans. Mr. Mack seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

3. New Business.

Ms. McCarthy presented Invoice #86388, dated August 31, 2018, for the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD). The invoice, in the amount of \$1,544.77, is for invasive control work at the New Castle Common.

Kirsten Howard of the New Hampshire Coastal Program, which is administered by the NH Department of Environmental Services, was present to provide an overview of Coastal Viewer. Coastal Viewer is an online mapping tool developed by NH GRANIT and the University of New Hampshire that is designed to help communities plan for coastal hazards and climate change impacts.

For the purposes of the New Castle Conservation Commission, the program is especially helpful to see how marsh migration and sea level rises will impact homes on the Island. By using maps such as the FEMA 100 year flood map, users have more information at hand to better assess and potentially reduce risks in their communities. Coastal Viewer brings data from a variety of sources and allows users to search maps pertaining to a wide range of items, such as coastal hazards and conservation land.

4. Unfinished Business.

None.

5. Announcements.

Ms. McCarthy announced that the annual New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions conference will be held on November 3, 2018 at Pembroke Academy.

6. Adjourn.

Ms. Barnhorst moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mack seconded. The motion carried, unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:02p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Rumph