

**Conservation Commission Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 10, 2012**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Rd.**  
**5:30pm**

**Present:** Members: Chair Ned Phillips Jr., Vice Chair John Hopf, Leslie Slate, Fred Leeder, David Roosa and Marea Mott. Member absent: Donald Littlefield. Also present was Terri Chmiel for the recording of the minutes.

**Call to Order**

Chair Mr. Phillips, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2011**

A motion was made by Mr. Leeder and seconded by Mr. Phillips, Jr. to approve the minutes of November 8, 2011. The motion carried with all in favor.

6 Ayes (Phillips, Hopf, Slate, Mott, Leeder, Roosa)                      0 Nays  
1 Absent (Littlefield)

**Block Island Power Company Inc. and the Estate of Marjorie McGinnes. Plat 17, Lots 35, 36, 37, 38, and 40.** Advisory to the Zoning Board of Review for an Application by Block Island Transmission, LLC for Deepwater Wind for construction of a substation on the BIPCO property.

Bryan Wilson representing Deepwater Wind presented. Deepwater Wind is proposing to build a new substation on the Block Island Power Company (BIPCO) property; as well as, expanding the current substation. Deepwater Wind proposed two alternate locations for the new substation: Site A located directly behind on the Block Island Power Company, Inc. and Site B is located on the Estate of Marjorie McGinnes. Mr. Wilson explained the cables coming from the mainland would make landfall at the Town Beach and run under the roads up to the BIPCO station and then go aerial at the backside.

Mr. Wilson discussed the following issues with the Commission:

- Lighting: Mandated to provide safety.
- Storage of diesel fuel on the property.
- Reduction in emissions.
- Life span of the equipment is designed to last 30 years.
- Sea level rise.
- Fenced in area around the proposed substation.
- Landscaping around the proposed fenced in substation.
- Landscape Maintenance Program.

- Modeling from the Hurricane of 1938.

Mr. Leeder made a motion seconded by Mr. Phillips, Jr. to send a favorable advisory to the Zoning Board of Review for approval of the application by Block Island Transmission, LLC for Deepwater Wind for construction of a substation on the BIPCO property based on the following conditions:

- Native plants used for screening that are fitting to the environment.
- The landscape will blend into the preexisting habitat for a visual screening.
- The landscape priority is based on non invasive plants.
- Establish a maintenance program for the landscaping.
- Recommend replacing mountain laurel, juniper and non deer resistant plants with bayberry and winterberry, etc.

3 Ayes (Phillips, Leeder and Roosa)  
1 Absent (Littlefield)

2 Nays (Slate and Mott)  
1 Abstain (Hopf)

**Correspondence**

The Commission received a letter from Don Thimble, Wastewater Management Inspector dated November 9, 2011 (see attached).

**Update on Snow Fencing**

A few commissioners will meet Saturday, January 14, 2012 to install snow fencing.

**Annual Meeting Schedule**

The annual meeting schedule was accepted as presented. The Conservation Commission will meet the second Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Road as follows:

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| January 10, 2012  | July 10, 2012      |
| February 14, 2012 | August 14, 2012    |
| March 13, 2012    | September 11, 2012 |
| April 10, 2012    | October 9, 2012    |
| May 8, 2012       | November 13, 2012  |
| June 12, 2012     | December 11, 2012  |

**Election of Officers**

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

**Adjourn**

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. in a motion by Mr. Hopf and seconded by Mr. Leeder.

6 Ayes (Phillips, Hopf, Slate, Mott, Leeder and Roosa)      0 Nays  
1 Absent (Littlefield)

Respectfully submitted

Terri L. Chmiel

Minutes approved: March 13, 2012