

**Conservation Commission Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2015
Town Hall Meeting Room, Old Town Rd.
5:30pm**

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

Call to Order

Chair Ned Phillips, Jr. called the regular meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 5:30pm.

Mitchell, Robert and Karen. Plat 4, Lot(s) 6-5. Advisory to the Zoning Board for an Application by Robert and Karen Mitchell and Melissa Hempstead for a Special Use Permit under Sections 306, 314 and 415 for construction of a stairway to the beach.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. recused himself.

Mr. Leeder explained the applicants originally asked for a walkway across the beach grass; the Conservation Commission asked Melissa Hempstead if they would reconsider their design. The applicant complied with the Commission's request.

Mr. Leeder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Littlefield, to send a Favorable Advisory to the Zoning Board of Review for an application by Robert and Karen Mitchell and Melissa Hempstead for a Special Use Permit under Sections 306, 314 and 415 for construction of a stairway to the beach.

5 Ayes (Leeder, Littlefield, Roosa, Hopf, and Mott) 0 Nays
1 Absent (Slate)
1 Recuse (Phillips, Jr.)

Mr. Phillips, Jr. rejoined the meeting.

Act on Town Council's directive of July 14, 2015 re: the application of Philip & Alicia Hammarskjold for consideration of alteration to wetland on Plat 19, Lot 15-1.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. commented that at the last Conservation Commission meeting the applicants were asked to submit additional information. Since the Commission has not heard back from the applicants, the Commission will not act on the Town Council's directive, but will table the item.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. made a motion, seconded by Mr. Littlefield to table the application of Philip & Alicia Hammarskjold for consideration of alteration to wetland on Plat 19, Lot 15-1.

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

Correspondence

Receipt of an email dated September 28, 2015 from Nancy Dodge, Town Manager re: Beach SAMP Adaptation Workshop for New Shoreham.

Mr. Phillips, Jr. encouraged the Commissioner's to attend the Beach SAMP Adaptation Workshop on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 1:00pm at Town Hall.

Discuss/Act on receipt of an email dated October 6, 2015 from RIDEM re: Tree RI Grant Program 2016-2017.

This item was not discussed.

Discuss/Act receipt of a Memorandum of Concern dated September 28, 2015 from Fiona Fitzpatrick, Town Clerk re: Possible development of process to encourage increased parking along roads, more shoulder room on roads for bike traffic, and controlling rain water runoff into Great Salt Pond and fresh water tributaries.

This item was tabled.

Discuss/Act receipt of an email dated August 20, 2015 from Lawrence Page re: Research Inquiry.

Mr. Leeder met with Lawrence Page; Mr. Page is an environmental science graduate student at the University of New Haven developing a research plan for his thesis. He contacted the Commission to ask if there are any particular environmental issues that Block Island is facing. The Commission was in agreement to ask Mr. Page if he would consider reviewing the Hammarskjold application and expand the findings into his research project. Mr. Leeder will contact Mr. Page.

Discussion/Act on request to ban Roundup.

Mr. Leeder made a motion, seconded by Mr. Littlefield, to send a letter to the Town Council to pass a ban on the use of Roundup.

Approval of minutes of August 11, 2015.

The minutes were not available for the meeting.

Adjournment.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm in a motion by Mr. Littlefield and seconded by Mr. Phillips, Jr.

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

Respectfully submitted
Teresa L. Chmiel
Administrative Assistant Building and Land Use
Minutes approved: