

Conservation Commission Meeting
Sharon Community Center
March 19, 2015

Peg Arguimbau, Chairperson, Stephen Cremer, Meredith Avery, Betsy McGrath and were the members present. Members not present: Linda Orel and Alan Westman. The Conservation Administrator, Greg Meister, was not present.

Meeting started at 7:45pm

**7:45PM: Hearing – Notice of Intent
16 Lexington Way, DEP #SE280-0570**

Ken McKenzie from Dunn & McKenzie representing the applicant, Gregory Wright. Lexington Street was previously known as Mt Fern Street.

The applicant is looking to increase the size of the backyard. He would like to install a lawn and landscape. A silt fence, and other precautions will be utilized. The house has been built. Arguimbau would like to look back at the original filing and minutes to see what was approved for this house lot. Applicant is not sure if a Notice of Intent was filed, or an ANRAD. It is his belief that this lot was outside of the buffer zone.

The lot size is approximately 2.3 acres. A Commission member asked if the client would be amenable to granting a Conservation Restriction on the back part of the lot.

Commission members reviewed the proposed configuration of the expanded backyard and had concerns. Members would prefer that the lawn area be more towards the back and right side of the home. Perhaps Meister should visit the property. As proposed, the lawn and landscaped area will go to the 65 foot buffer line. The representative for the applicant was asked to stake the line at the 65 foot buffer, perhaps putting in monuments. Any significant trees to be removed should be marked.

Motion: Continue hearing to April 2, time to be determined. Cremer, Geller 5-0-0

Phone Ken McKenzie at 508.294.1091 to let him know what time his client will be scheduled on the April 2 agenda.

Documents included: Notice of Intent, Plot map dated 12/9/14

**8:00PM: Hearing Continuance - Request for Determination of Applicability
Installation of a Seasonal Dock, Paul Hayes, 4 Beach Road**

Commission members discussed the installation of a floating dock which shall be removed at the end of the season. Provisional approval has been granted by Commission members on the concept of the dock. When the applicant returns to Town, he should then meet with the commission. Commission members would like to know the date the dock will be removed. They would like this date entered into the Order of Conditions. Before granting the Orders, Commission members would like a little more information. This can be done via phone, or with the applicant or representative at a future Commission meeting.

Motion: to continue hearing to April 2nd or at a time when the applicant or a representative will be available. Geller, Avery 5-0-0

Documents included: RDA and photocopy of docking system.

Old and New Business. Voucher signed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes dated March 5, 2015

Page 2, take out Morse Street, should be 135 Old Post Road.

Page 1, 8pm Hearing. Add: sunroom will not extend into Riverfront any further than the existing house. Note that Geller arrived to the meeting at approximately 8:15pm.

Motion: to accept minutes as amended, Avery, Cremer 4-0-1

Agenda items for the next meeting:

1) Discussion of appointee to Lake Management Committee. There is currently only one applicant.

Lake Update: Arguimbau spoke with the Recreation Director regarding the monitoring of the boat launch. Her staff will begin monitoring the boat launch Memorial Day weekend. At this time, she has not been informed of anyone monitoring the boat launch prior to Memorial Day. Arguimbau asked the Commission how they would like to address. It is important that there is a presence at the Lake.

- 1) Contact prior volunteer to see if interested in again monitoring the boat launch
- 2) Speak with Council of Aging about other potential volunteers
- 3) Provide volunteer with a camera to assist in identification and justification
- 4) Possibility of lakefront homeowners assisting with boat launch and monitoring

Lake Management Review Committee (LMRC) – A date for the next meeting has not been set. Avery, McGrath and Meister are working on a presentation. The presentation entails more than what Meister does with regards to the Lake, but other issues and obligations as well.

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) – The CPC met last night. The vote on funding for repairs to Hammershop Dam was postponed to Monday night, so that Geller could present concerns about the funding to the Conservation Commission. O’Cain and Hooper were both adamant about the dollar amount of \$430,000 the CPC was being asked to vote on. Two estimates for repairs came in lower than the \$430,000 being requested, with one estimate coming in at \$321,000. O’Cain and Hooper both felt that they believed additional estimates would come in lower than the \$430,000, but they want to be sure that any potential contingencies are covered. Geller made a motion to approve the project at \$325,000 with a request for additional bids. This motion failed, with a 3-3 vote. Although all members were in support of repairing the dam, there was disagreement in the dollar amount to be funded. Further, Hooper informed the group that any dollar amount less than the \$430,000 being requested would result in the DPW withdrawing its request.

At the Board of Selectman (BOS) meeting, the Selectman voted in favor of the \$430,000. It was mentioned that the design phase of the project was not sent out to bid. GZA, as the Town Consultant, will be paid approximately \$70,000 out of the requested \$430,000. A couple of questions posed by members of the CPC included 1) why is this process so difficult, why do not different town departments work together in fixing the dam. 2) Is there a possibility of breaking down the project into several phases?

Geller spoke with Hughes, the head of Office of Dam Safety (ODS). Geller sent an email to Hughes, explaining the situation at the dam, and asking for the parameters for engineering and requirements for repairing the dam. The response from the office of ODS was that a Licensed Professional Engineer with some experience of working on dams was required. The state does not maintain a list of preferred engineers.

Commission members feel that the CPC is the best venue for funding of the project and that repair of the dam should be the responsibility of the DPW.

Motion: To have Geller support the DPW application/proposal for \$430,000 for repairs to the dam. Geller, McGrath 4-0-1

Motion: Commission is disinclined to own a project that has vast ownership by the DPW
Avery, McGrath 5-0-0

The repair of the dam needs to go through the Finance Committee as well as Town Meeting. Additionally, according to Hooper, there will be approximately half a million being requested for snow removal.

There still needs to be a design for the repair and the Town has been given a May 1st deadline.

Motion: To move into executive session for the purpose of discussing land negotiations. The Commission will adjourn at the end of executive session.
Avery-Aye; Cremer-Aye; McGrath-Aye, Geller-Aye; Arguimbau-Aye