

**MINUTES  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
PORTSMOUTH, NH**

**Remote Meeting Via Zoom Conference Call**

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Per NH RSA 91-A:2, III (b) the Chair has declared COVID-19 outbreak an emergency and has waived the requirement that a quorum be physically present at the meeting pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-04, Section 8, as extended by Executive Order 2020-10, and Emergency Order #12, Section 3. Members will be participating remotely and will identify their location and any person present with them at that location. All votes will be by roll call.

**3:30 P.M.**

**July 08, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Barbara McMillan; Vice Chairman Samantha Collins; Members; Allison Tanner, Adrienne Harrison, Jessica Blasko,

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Alternate Joseph O'Neill

**ALSO PRESENT:** Peter Britz, Environmental Planner/Sustainability Coordinator

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**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. June 10, 2020

Voted to approve minutes of June 10<sup>th</sup> with edits on page 7, pp 10 change the word "be" to "been", on page 8, pp 6 needs to be reworded. Unanimous

B. June 17, 2020

Voted to approve minutes of June 17<sup>th</sup> with typos on page 5 other business last pp word "like" missing. On Page 6, pp2 add the word "the" on page 6, last pp add "in diameter" after "2 inches". Two abstentions Adrienne Harrison and Jessica Blasko.

**II. WORK SESSIONS**

1. 444 Pleasant Street  
Portsmouth Housing Authority, owner

Assessor Map 102, Lot 54

At the request of the applicant, the Commission voted unanimously to postpone the work session for 444 Pleasant Street to a time uncertain. The applicant wanted to develop some concept plans before meeting with the Commission.

### **III. STATE WETLAND BUREAU APPLICATIONS**

1. 82 Driftwood Lane  
Stephen J. Little & Rosemarie Golini, owners  
Assessor Map 207, Lot 42

State wetland permit application for Steve Little of 82 Driftwood. Steve Little was present to discuss the application.

Mr. Little presented his project saying he is replacing an existing breezeway on his house with a new covered porch. The covered porch will go four feet into the existing porch on the rear of the house.

Ms. Tanner asked about existing downspouts. Steve said he has two existing downspouts on the house. He said one goes to the street side with no opportunity for runoff to make it to the tidal waters over his yard. He said the other downspout on the water side of his house drains to under the deck and into the ground. He has not seen any indication that there is erosion or other issue with this configuration.

Ms. Tanner asked if he could plant some shrubs between his project and the water. Mr. Little was agreeable to that.

Vice- Chair Collins asked if Mr. Little would be agreeable to putting in drip edge along the side of the new project that is not connected to the house. Mr. Little was agreeable.

Chair McMillan asked if Mr. Little had any erosion control planned for this project. Mr. Little said no but he was willing to do so.

Chair McMillan and Ms. Tanner expressed concern about the application, stating more detailed plans and photographs would have made the application more understandable.

Ms. Tanner moved to recommend approval of the State Wetland Bureau application, seconded by Ms. Blasko. The Commission voted to recommend approval to the NHDES with four stipulations:

1. Erosion control measures be put in place waterward of the project during construction,
2. That more shrubs be added to the waterside of the project
3. That the applicant move the shrub at the front/street side of the house or protect it during construction
4. That a stone drip edge be added along the length of the project on the garage side.

**IV. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

1. 0 Borthwick Avenue  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire d.b.a. Eversource Energy, owner  
Assessor Map 240, Lots 2-1 & 2-1001  
Assessor Map 234, Lot 7-3

Lenny Lord from Tighe and Bond and Ed Minerowicz from Eversource were present to speak to the application. Mr. Lord stated that the project needed to adjust the work shown on the previously approved plan in the field and that all of the work had been done on frozen ground. Mr. Lord showed photographs of how the site had been restored since the work was conducted.

Chair McMillan asked why there had been so much compacted earth in one of the photos shown. Mr. Minerowicz stated that the contractor had added hay in the field to prevent erosion.

The Commission voted to approve the application as presented. All members voted to approve. Ms. Harrison's computer connection was lost so she was not able to vote so the vote was 4-0.

2. 140 Edmond Avenue  
Bacman Enterprises, Inc.  
Assessor Map 220, Lot 81

Alex Ross and Mark Jacobs were present to speak to the application. Mr. Ross stated that this was an after the fact permit application. The owner of the property had applied for (approximately 14 or 15 years ago) and received approval to alter the site much more extensively than currently proposed. However, due to the recession the work was never completed. This work which included installation of new parking made of porous pavers was done without a permit. They were before the Commission to present the application.

Mr. Ross stated the applicant had built a portion of the parking on City property and there is also a gravel area on City property where cars currently park. They plan to put some boulders in to prevent cars from parking so close to the buffer where they currently park on a gravel area. This is also the area where the additional wetland buffer plants would go.

Chair McMillan asked how the pervious pavers were installed. Mr. Ross stated that the pervious pavers had been installed with a bed of crushed stone but he did not have the details with him today.

Ms. Tanner asked what they had planned to plant in the buffer as shown on the plan. Mr. Ross stated that Mark Jacobs, the wetland scientist for the project would be in the field to oversee the work and would specify the plantings at that time.

Vice-Chair Collins asked whether the proposed shed was to be in the buffer. It was stated that it would not be in the buffer.

Mr. Britz stated that they would have to get permission from the City Council to install the buffer planting and install the boulders or fence to prevent parking in the area adjacent to the parking where the wetland buffer plantings are proposed.

The Commission voted to approve the application with two stipulations:

1. The applicant shall receive City Council approval to install the plantings on City Property and that they also show removing the rubble pile on the City property that is currently exposed.
2. If the applicant is required to provide additional parking they will come back for an amended wetland conditional use permit application

The vote was unanimous to approve.

## **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Tanner asked how we deal with after the fact permits. Is there any way to penalize the applicants who work without a permit and come in for an after-the-fact application? Mr. Britz said he would look into the possibilities and would explore the possibility for separate category of application "after-the-fact" which would be more costly for the applicant.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Izak Gilbo,  
Conservation Commission Administrative Clerk