

Town of Newington, NH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes, Thursday, May 14, 2020

- Call to Order:** Chair Jane Hislop called the May 14, 2020 Zoom meeting at 6:02 p.m.
- Present:** Chair Jane Hislop; Vice-Chair Jim Weiner; Commissioners Andrew Meigs and Jim Tucker; Alternate Jane Kendall and Town Planner, John Krebs
- Absent:** Commissioner Ann Morton; and Alternate Bill Murray;
- Public Guests:** Jace Grégoire and Ben Gross with Rye Design; Steve Haight with Civil Works New England; and Mark Joyce

**1) NHDES Permit Requests:** Expedited Minimum Wetlands Permit request by Mark Joyce for his property located at 52 Gundalow Landing, Tax Map 22, Lot 6

Jace Grégoire with Rye Design stated that the application was to replace the existing rip rap slope that was within the 100-foot tidal buffer zone.

Vice-Chair Weiner asked if the intent was for better retainment, improved appearance or both, and Mr. Gregoire stated that it was for both. showed slope., existing riprap slope.

Commissioner Andrew Meigs asked to see where the retaining walls would go. Mr. Grégoire said that they would put one retaining wall behind the stairs, and another beside it, with landscaping behind.

Commissioner Meigs asked if this met the definition of a seawall. Chair Hislop said a seawall would be classified as having contact with water.

Commissioner Meigs said the setback was 50 feet from the high tide line so he wondered if it would be a seawall in 20 years. Chair Hislop said it could be, but it wasn't classified as one at this time.

Vice-Chair Weiner added that they were placing a cement wall in the no build zone. He said it appeared as beautification, but he didn't see it as causing any harm to the area, and it would help prevent erosion on the slope.

Commissioner Jim Tucker agreed that it would prevent with erosion, and noted that part of the house was within the setback anyhow.

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*Jim Weiner moved to recommend approval of the NHDES Minimum Wetlands Permit request by Mark Joyce for his property located at 52 Gundalow Landing, Tax Map 22, Lot 6, and Andrew Meigs seconded the motion. The motion passed with Jane Hislop, Jim Weiner, Jim Tucker, Andrew Meigs, and Jane Kendall all voting in favor.*

Town Planner, John Krebs asked that the five copies he sent to the commissioners be returned so that they could be signed by Chair Hislop before going to the Town clerk to sign.

### **2) Election of Officers:**

*Andrew Meigs moved to nominate Jane Hislop as chair, and Jim Weiner as Vice-Chair. Jim Tucker seconded the motion, and the motion with Jane Hislop, Jim Weiner, Jim Tucker, Andrew Meigs, and Jane Kendall all voting in favor.*

**Minutes:** *Andrew Meigs moved to approve the Minutes for the March 12, 2020 meeting with corrections as noted. Jim Tucker seconded, and the motion with Jane Hislop, Jim Weiner, Jim Tucker, Andrew Meigs, and Jane Kendall all voting in favor.*

Commissioner Kendall noted that the Minutes for March 23, 2020 also needed to be reviewed for approval.

### **3) Additional Discussions**

*Mr. Krebs asked if there were any future topics for next month's mtg. Chair Hislop asked about the status of the old cider mill. Mr. Krebs replied that there was a Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting to be held outside in the Town Hall parking lot on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, but the variance request was put off indefinitely, or until public hearings were available for public attendance.*

*Discussion ensued regarding the annual "Spring for the Bay" community education series. Commissioner Tucker suggested that they might be able to do something outside in the summer or fall. Commissioner Tucker added that his daughter would be interested in doing a presentation in the fall, or following spring.*

*Chair Hislop said she didn't see anything public gatherings until there was proof that the virus wasn't passing in close contact anymore.*

*Chair Hislop added that the Board of Selectmen were concerned with the budget, and put spending on a hold.*

*Commissioner Meigs asked for an update on the status of Eversource's transmission expansion project. Chair Hislop said they were working on planting*

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*around the Flynn Pit, and other than that they were working on restoring private properties.*

*Mr. Krebs commented that Planning Board Chair, Denis Hebert had been receiving complaints, and he was following up with Eversource to be sure that they regrade and restore areas.*

*Mr. Krebs went on to say that Eversource would be removing the piles of poor soil from the laydown area on Shattuck Way, and replace it with clean loam to restore the site over the summer. Commissioner Tucker commented that the site would probably be better than it was when they went in.*

**Adjournment:**        *The Commission signed out of the meeting at 6:26 p.m.*

**Next Meeting:**        Thursday, July 17, 2020

**Respectfully  
Submitted by:**        Jane K. Kendall, Recording Secretary

*These Minutes were approved and adopted at the July 16, 2020 Conservation Commission Meeting.*

