



Conservation Commission

January 28, 2014 – 6:30 PM – **Minutes**
City Hall, 133 William Street

****View Agenda ****

Members Present

Kenneth Motta, Chairman
Craig Dixon
Dennis Audette
Paul Pacheco

Members Absent

John Radcliffe

Staff Present

Agent Sarah Porter
Sandy Douglas, Admin. Specialist

Chairman Motta called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

HEARINGS:

1. **SE49-0692 – (Continued from 6/11/13, 6/25/13, 7/9/13, 7/23/12, 8/13/13, 8/27/13, 9/10/13, 9/24/13, 10/7/13, 10/22/13, 11/12/13, 11/26/13, 12/10/13, 1/7/14) - A Notice of Intent as filed by Richard Hopps for property identified as south side of Cardinal Street/ 1156 & 1158 Cardinal St. (Map 136, Lot 353; Map 138, Lots 377 & 378). Applicant requests a wetland boundary verification and approval for an eight lot subdivision in the Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Representative is Richard Rheume of Prime Engineering, Inc. CONTINUED**
2. **(Continued from 10/7/13, 10/22/13, 11/12/13, 11/26/13 & 12/10/13, 1/7/14) - A Request for Determination of Applicability as filed by Ron Labelle, City of New Bedford Commissioner of Public Infrastructure for property identified as 1350, 1296, 1232, 1216, 1182 & 1174 Sassaquin Avenue, New Bedford (Map 138, Lots 445, 81, 67, 69, 60, 392, and 191) and the Swallow Street and Sassaquin Avenue Rights of Way. Applicant proposes to upgrade the storm water management system in the Buffer Zone. Representative is David Fredette of the Department of Public Infrastructure. CONTINUED**
3. **SE49-0698 – (Continued from 11/12/13, 11/26/13, 12/10/13, 1/7/14) - A Notice of Intent as filed by The City of New Bedford Planning Department for property identified as Palmers Island (Map 32, Lots 1 & 2). The applicant proposes to establish a pedestrian pathway and manage invasive species in the Buffer Zone and Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage. Representative is Mathew Creighton of BSC Group. CONTINUED**
4. **SE49-597 – (Continued from 1/7/14) - A Request for Certificate of Compliance as filed by Ana M. Reis, Trustee of Bismark Meadows Realty Trust for property identified as Bismark Street (Bismark Meadows Road), (Map 136, Lot 131). Representative is Edwin H. Gless of Existing Grade, Inc. CONTINUED**

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. **Agent updates**

Agent Porter advised that we can no longer use the Drop Box. She spoke with our MIS Department with regard to the files getting deleted from the Drop Box and they asked that we no longer use the Drop Box because of security reasons. So from here on, all the meeting documents will be posted on the City website under the Environmental Stewardship website and will have a separate drop box for each meeting and will be available to be viewed by all including the public.

Agent Porter advised that DEP is holding a hearing on Proposed Severe Weather Emergency Declarations and go each severe storm that we have, they will announce what activities they will allow to take place with a Request for An Emergency Certification without the need to file a Notice of Intent. This will be done with each posting of the Emergency Declarations and by region.

SASSAQUIN POND

Agent Porter advised that the proposed new date for the Sassaquin Pond presentation to the City Council is February 12, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

Agent Porter advised that on March 5th, 2014 is the meeting with the watershed residence to give them a power point presentation.

Chairman Motta inquired as to how the project schedule is going on the deliverables and if they are still within budget. Agent Porter replied that they are still on schedule and within budget.

Commissioner Motta commented that he has not seen any additional invoices coming for this project.

Agent Porter stated that the Commission wouldn't see the invoices because they go directly to Michele Paul, the Environmental Stewardship Director for approval and the extra time would be applicable under the RDA for Sassaquin Pond and DPI has put this project on hold for some reason.

Commissioner Audette stated that he has seen a ton of DPI workers working at the Acushnet Saw Mill project. Chairman Motta stated that he knows that there was a spill recently at the outfall at the head of the river south of the bridge. But according to his recollection the town line goes through the center of the river and didn't know why New Bedford DPI crews would be working out there.

MACC CONFERENCE

Commissioner Dixon stated that he will be attending the Conference along with Agent Porter. Chairman Motta and Commissioner Dixon will not be going to the Conference this year.

Agent Porter advised that there is an ENF for I-195 was received and that this Commission has already issued an Order of Conditions for the storm water remediation improvement.

SOLAR ARRAY

Commissioner Audette inquired if whether there was any news on the denial of this project. Agent Porter replied that the applicant never appealed it and their Attorney Shephard Johnson contacted Jane Medeiros Freidman of the Solicitor's Office and advised her that they withdrew the law suit and are not pursuing the project because they did not receive the funding before the end of the year.

BISMARK MEADOWS

Chairman Motta inquired if the revised plan of 1/7/14 that was included in their packets is an update to the previously presented plan. Agent Porter replied that the only difference is they placed the wetland boundary and the 25' no disturb on this revised plan.

FEMA

Agent Porter advised that Attorney Jane Medeiros Freidman is taking care of getting the new ordinance in place.

DCR TRAIL

Agent Porter advised that this grant is going through the Park and Recreation Department for the \$7,900 expenditure for Flora B. Peirce repairs to trails.

2. General Correspondence

3. Approval of September 10, 2013 and November 26, 2013 Meeting Minutes.

There being no additions, corrections or deletions of substance, a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2013 was made by Commissioner Dixon. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Audette. All in favor. Motion carries.

There being no additions, corrections or deletions of substance, a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of November 26, 2013 was made by Commissioner Dixon. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Audette. All in favor. Motion carries.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dixon at 6:46 pm. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Audette. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Douglas
Administrative Specialist