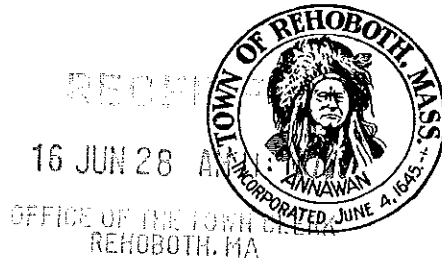


**CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

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Robert Materne, Chairman
David Evans, Vice Chair
Thomas Nicholson
Krisna Prachanronarong
Stephen Choquette
Matthew Habershaw
Scott Pennoyer
Matt Kershaw, Assoc. Member

REHOBOTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – September 1, 2015

Present: Robert Materne, David Evans, Thomas Nicholson, Krisna Prachanronarong Steven Choquette, Matt Habershaw, Scott Pennoyer, Leeann Bradley Conservation Agent

Absent: Matt Kershaw, Associate Member

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Materne called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Pledge of Allegiance recited at 7:02pm.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

178 Summer Street – Solid waste in BVW – No new information.

Manitook Estates – Up and running, back to work.

CURRENT ISSUES

1. Lot 10, Plain St. – Vieira – Restoration of altered BVW – Mr. Materne stated Mr. Pennoyer is in charge of the restoration.
2. Two Key West Blvd. – Ferreira – EO – Restoration of altered BVW – Mr. Nick Ferreira was present. Mr. Materne noted they went to the site and Mr. Ferreira has cleared it down to grade. It was suggested that five or six Red Maple trees be planted along with Sweet Pepperbush and Highbush Blueberry. Mr. Habershaw suggested one gallon shrubs and 1 – 3 gallon size for maples. Wetland mix is usually done with hydro-seeding. It can be mixed with annual rye and planting can be done now but needs to keep it wet. Mr. Ferreira intends to plant this weekend or next. He is getting plants from Amherst. Mr. Materne noted that Mr. Ferreira is working closely with the Commission and wants to make this successful.
3. 187 Pleasant St. - Goulet – No new information at this time.
4. 417 Winthrop St. – Cartin – Mr. Shawn Cartin was present. He stated he contacted several people to remove stumps and do some grading. He is waiting for the go-ahead to clean up. Mr. Materne stated he cannot do that until the wetlands are verified. Mr. Cartin wants to remove the stumps from the property now. The Commission okayed having Mr. Cartin remove the stumps with an excavator before the wetlands are identified. Mr. Habershaw suggested visiting the property on the next site walk to see how

the stumps were removed and check progress. The Conservation Commission is allowing Mr. Cartin to remove the stumps only and not the fill.

PUBLIC HEARINGS & MEETINGS

1. 269 Summer St. – Arnold – RDA – Septic – Mr. Manuel Mello was present. He is proposing a septic upgrade that currently has a cesspool which still works but is 30' from the wetland, The cesspool leaches into the BVW and the Riverfront Area of the Palmer River. The existing cesspool will be pumped, filled and replaced by a tank. Mr. Materne informed Mr. Mello the haybale line needs to be extended to the road. The system will be 5' above the water table with a poly liner around the system. It will be gravity fed, no pump. It will require significant grading within the 50' buffer zone. Mr. Mello will need to raise the grade 2' to cover the system. Mr. Pennoyer stated that because it's a repair with an existing lawn to a single family house there is nothing gained asking for an NOI. Only the lawn will be disturbed. The area will be re-seeded after the new system is complete. Mr. Habershaw suggested it be seeded after September 30th with a hay mulch. Mr. Choquette suggested that after September 30th use one roll of Ventura blanket for stabilization and erosion control on the slope.

Mr. Habershaw motioned to issue a Negative #3 Determination of Applicability with haybales for siltation control with a timeframe of September 30th.

Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. 125 Chestnut St. – Escobar – NOI – Mr. Robert Davis from Insite Engineering was present on behalf of the applicant. He began by stating an RDA was filed for house construction a little over a year ago. After the Escobar's moved in they did a little work in the backyard. Mr. Davis explained the work went beyond what the limits of the RDA covered. The wetland has been reflagged. Work done in the 50' buffer includes minor grading and tree clearing. There are minor wheel ruts. There has been crushed stone put down and the area is level for a pool. Mr. Davis suggested the crushed stone be removed by hand not machine and leave the area to naturally re-vegetate. Mr. Materne verified the wetland line is all set. He feels most of the area will re-vegetate naturally. He is concerned with identifying the wetland line in the future. He suggested possibly a fence. Mr. Evans mentioned haybales for erosion control for loaming and seeding. Mr. Davis proposed 3 Conservation signs on posts. The Commission wants to extend the straw wattle line along the wetland line which will be the limit of work. Mr. Choquette reminded the applicant that he cannot put grass clippings in the wetlands.

Mr. Evans motioned to close the public hearing.

Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Evans motioned to issue the Order of Conditions based on the issues discussed above.

Mr. Habershaw seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Escobar will be given one Conservation sign and he will need to purchase the other two.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Pleasant Street Bridge Replacement – Dave Perry – Discussion – Mr. Dave Perry from the Board of Selectmen was present. He began by stating that the Pleasant St. Bridge has been closed since the 2010 floods. It was fixed temporarily with plates and asphalt. Now the road is buckling and the plate is bending. Due to public safety concerns, the bridge is now closed. An engineering firm has inspected the bridge and determined the material underneath is eroding around the 6' culvert. The permitting process has begun in order to repair the bridge and an engineering firm has been hired at a cost of \$20,000.00. Mr. Perry is requesting an Emergency Work Order. The stream flow is low at 18" of water. The bridge can be replaced in 48 hours. The replacement culvert is in town, the headwalls are intact and they can replace the culvert. There are two bypass swales, one on each side of the bridge. The swales will be

reopened with a dam and bypass pipes. They will put up 2' coffer dams. Mr. Perry stressed the importance of doing this while the water is low to prevent the headwalls from collapsing during a storm. This will prevent sedimentation from migrating downstream. Mr. Materne stated the Emergency Work Order work needs to be done within 30 days. Mr. Pennoyer stated that this is an emergency and needs to be done. There is no change in size from the oval culvert to the box culvert. An NOI will be filed. Mr. Evans noted the new standards require an open bottom box culvert. This culvert has a bottom. Mr. Materne stated they need to be careful with DEP and the town of Swansea. If no Emergency Work Order is issued they will need to wait until an Order of Conditions is issued. Mr. Perry is asking for an Emergency Work Order in case it is needed. Mr. Materne stated that is not what an Emergency Work Order is for.

Mr. Evans motioned to authorize an Emergency Work Order to allow the replacement of the culvert and bridge.

Mr. Pennoyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Perry is hoping to have the NOI in by Thursday morning but is not sure. He will not have plans until next week so they wouldn't start work until then.

2. Request for COC – 26 Meadowlark Drive – SE60-843 – Ms. Bradley checked on the site and all looks good.

Mr. Evans motioned to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 26 Meadowlark Drive.

Mr. Nicholson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. OakHill Beagle Club - Discussion

Mr. Evans noted he had a conversation with someone from the Rehoboth Land Trust regarding the right of way access at the Oakhill Beagle Club. A volunteer has mowed the area but now there are wheel ruts and they are looking for someone to fill the ruts with gravel. He asked Ms. Bradley to look at the Conservation Restriction to see what activities are permissible and he is hoping no filing is required.

MINUTES

None

INVOICES

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Nicholson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05p.m.

Mr. Habershaw seconded the motion. Motion passed.

For the Conservation Commission,


Robert Materne, Chairman