

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
Oak Bluffs Conservation Commission
4:00 pm - Town Hall

Members Present: Ron Zentner, Penny Hinkle, Joan Hughes, Margaret Klugman

Others Present: Walter Vail, Christine Flynn, Richard Toole, Fred Hancock, Amy Billings, Gail Barmakian, Adam Turner, Bob Whritenour, Mike Santoro, Brian Packish, Davio Danielson, Doug Abdelnour

East Chop Bluff

Ms. Durkee will see if Mr. Pena can do another inspection of the bluff due to the recent storm.

FEMA Flood Maps

Ms. Durkee and Mr. Barbadoro are meeting with Selectmen next Tuesday on the Flood Map warrant article to accept the new maps.

King – NOI for construction of a single family dwelling at Windemere Road, Map 6, Lot 46.2

A motion was made by Mr. Zentner and seconded by Ms. Hinkle to continue the hearing to March 1, 2016 at 4:15 pm. All voted in favor.

Discussion on lighting and landscaping – North Bluff

Ms. Hughes stated that the Conservation Commission was asked to hold a discussion on the North Bluff lighting and landscaping issues.

Landscaping: Ms. Hughes stated that the landscaping is for the bank restoration, that the Conservation Commission must approve the planting plan, and that the plan must include species other than beach grass that are appropriate for the site with salt tolerance and strong root systems and to protect the bank. She stated that she spoke with the man who was awarded the landscaping contract through Northern Construction; he was surprised but pleasant to learn about the Con Com's requirement for approval of the plan. Ms. Hughes stated that she is trying to get a copy of the plan that the bidding was based on. In response to a question from MS. Barmakian she stated that the site will be top dressed and the plantings appropriate for bank restoration. Mr. Hancock stated that he trusts the Con Com will come up with an appropriate plan.

Lighting on Boardwalk: Ms. Hughes stated that the lighting is not a Con Com issue, but rather a public safety issue per Chief Blake. Mr. Hancock stated that the MVC concern is the height of the poles and the effect of the lighting on people walking along Sea View Avenue Extension. After discussion and review of CLE Ms. Hughes and Mr. Hancock agreed that it would be reasonable to have the three middle pole fixtures at 12 feet and the end poles (at harbor/ADA ramp area and by restroom/ADA ramp-to-fish pier) at 20 feet. Mr. Hancock stated that there is an LED version of the lights that does not provide as much light but is a warmer color/temperature. He also stated that the lights can come with a diffuser/reflector pattern to keep the light from spreading up and out into the water. There was discussion of the need for supplementary lights on posts on the boardwalk to light the areas in between the poles. Mr. Hancock stated that the lights can be put on an astronomical timer. He stated that the bolting patterns for the poles are the same no matter the height so the bolts can be installed before the lighting is approved by the MVC. He stated that the only concern is the amount of voltage needed for the approved lights. Mr. Turner stated that the applicant needs to return to the MVC with a proposed plan. Ms. Barmakian stated that the issue should be placed on the next Selectmen's agenda. She stated that she would like to see the lights be mundane, to keep people away and not make the site an attractive nuisance. Mr. Packish stated that he would like to see less light at the pole by the harbor due to siting concerns when boaters are trying to enter the harbor at night. Ms. Barmakian asked if there could be consideration of how the lights would look from the water. Ms. Durkee stated that the lighting is a Board of Selectmen issue. Mr. Vail asked about a wind rating for the poles. Ms. Hughes stated that they are the same as the Steamship Authority poles and those poles have not been a problem. Mr. Santoro asked Ms. Hughes to attend the next Selectmen's meeting.

Plaza Plantings: There was a brief discussion about plantings for the plaza area by the restrooms. The plaza and concrete planters are part of the North Bluff project but the plantings are not. Ms. Hughes stated that the CPA may be able to fund the plantings. Others suggested resident donations.

Davio Danielson – request for conservation restriction at Lagoon Ridge

This discussion will be rescheduled to the next meeting

Next Con Com Meeting

Because Ms. Hughes (North Bluff lighting) and Ms. Durkee (FEMA Flood Maps) both have to attend the Selectmen's meeting next Tuesday the next Con Com meeting will be rescheduled for Wednesday, February 10 at noon.

Sailing Camp Park – management discussion

Ms. Hughes stated that's he is still working on getting the prior year fiscal information. She stated that she has booked some local events. Ms. Hinkle stated that she spoke to someone who fondly remembers contra dances at the mainstay.

Beach Meeting

Ms. Durkee stated that Mr. Selig has organized a beach meeting next Wednesday, February 10 with Steve McKenna of CZM and Greg Berman of WHOI/Sea Grant. She will inform the Commissioners of the time and place.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Durkee