

Newbury Conservation Commission - Public Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2023

Members Present:

- ☒ Bob Connors (Chair)
- ☒ Mary Rimmer (Vice Chair)
- ☒ Peter Paicos (Planning Board Liaison)
- ☒ Brad Duffin
- ☒ Dianne O'Brien
- ☒ TJ Conte
- ☒ Samantha Holt (Agent)

7:01 p.m. Meeting Called to Order

- Opening remarks from Conservation Agent Samantha Holt
- Minutes Review: Commission members reviewed minutes from the 6/6/2023 meetings. **Motion by TJ Conte to approve the 6/6/2023 minutes as drafted; seconded by Dianne O'Brien; vote 5:0:0.**
- Introduction of new members starting July 1, 2023: Mick Brown and Woody Knight (new Planning Board Liaison)
- Thank you to Peter Paicos, who served on the Commission since 2019

EXTENSION PERMIT

28 Riverfront (DEP File #050-1287) Devin Batchelder (Applicant)

Samantha Holt presents a request for a two-year extension permit for an OOC issued 4/25/2019 for work to complete general landscape maintenance, relocate a paved area, conduct invasive species management, and rebuild an existing pier. Due to COVID tolling, the existing OOC now expires on July 31, 2023. Ms. Holt noted that the work completed so far includes landscaping, driveway reconfiguration, most of the dock components, patio replacement, and some of the invasive species management. Outstanding work includes completing the dock replacement and invasive species management. **Motion by Mary Rimmer to issue an Extension Permit for a period of two years; seconded by TJ Conte; vote 6:0:0.**

ADMINISTRATION

Commission members held a brief discussion regarding the Town of Newbury Dock and Pier Policy. Mary Rimmer provided an overview of the regulations surrounding docks and piers, and noted that the Town policy adopted in 2020 states that the Commission is disinclined to approve any new dock and pier proposals within Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Ms. Rimmer expressed interest in revisiting and potentially dissolving this policy. Commission members requested to hold an open review and discussion on the subject and agreed to table the discussion until the 7/18/2023 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

17 & 19 10th Street (DEP File #050-1404) Kevin & Lisa Barlow (Applicants)

Samantha Holt presents an update on an NOI for work to raze an existing two-family residence and rebuild a new two-family residence on pilings with associated site work. Atty Doug Deschenes (representative) is also present to discuss the project. Ms. Holt shared several comments received from DEP, and noted that it may be appropriate in this case to utilize the OOC to address those comments. Commission members had an opportunity to discuss the project. Questions were raised regarding the elevation of the structure, impervious surface coverage on the lot, and a plan for the proposed plantings. Ms. Holt shared a draft of the OOC special conditions and noted where in the findings and conditions the DEP comments can be addressed and a condition related to temporary and permanent fencing demarcating the limit of work. An additional condition was discussed to require a planting plan to be submitted that shall be subject to final review and approval by the NCC or its Agent. **Motion by Peter Paicos to**

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issue the Order of Conditions with all standard conditions and the special conditions as discussed; seconded by TJ Conte; vote 6:0:0.

61 Boston Road (DEP File #unassigned) Matthew Berlin (Applicant)
The Applicant has requested a continuance. **Motion by TJ Conte to continue the hearing to 6:00 PM on 7/18/2023; seconded by Dianne O'Brien; vote 6:0:0.**

Middle Road (DEP File #050-1401) Governor's Academy (Applicant)
Samantha Holt presents a request for an amended OOC for work to construct a walking path to provide access to the Alford Science Center from Middle Road. The path route will be changing slightly in one area to avoid having to remove or damage a pair of mature trees, and the boardwalk will be raised six inches in order to accommodate existing boulders. An additional change outside of jurisdictional areas was also noted. **Motion by Peter Paicos to issue an amended Order of Conditions; seconded by TJ Conte; vote 6:0:0.**

ADMINISTRATION

Samantha Holt noted that the Intermunicipal Agreement between the towns of Newbury and Merrimac for shared conservation services has been fully executed. Several updates will be made to the website in the coming days to indicate new office hours, which will begin on July 1.

Ms. Holt also noted that MACC will be holding a training on the newly released BVW Delineation Handbook on July 20. Preference is expected to be given to Commission members, however the town of Merrimac will likely not have anyone available to go, so Ms. Holt has offered to attend the training and recap it for both Commissions after. Commission members agreed to send Ms. Holt as a representative of the town.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Holt, Conservation Agent