

Tisbury Conservation Commission
Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, Massachusetts 02568
(508) 696-4260

MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2022

Present via remote participation: Thomas Robinson, Nancy Weaver, John Best, Caroline Little, Amelia Hambrecht, Lilian Robinson, Sandra Demel, Jane Varkonda, conservation agent and Laura Barbera, administrative assistant.

Business:

The minutes of March 1, 2022 were unanimously approved as amended.
Site inspections were scheduled for 3/29 at 4:30 p.m.

22- 6: Tisbury Harbormaster– 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Robinson opened the public hearing for the repair and addition of a pier at Owen Park.

John Crocker, harbormaster, explained that they were proposing to replace the Owen Park pier with minor modifications.

They plan to widen the walkway to 10 feet and increase the width of the “T” by five feet so there will be ample room to install a small building for harbormaster business measuring approximately 10’x12’.

The Selectmen may not agree to build the structure but would like to permit it anyway.

The pier will be raised about a foot. They would also like to make changes to the dinghy floats but their ability to do that is restricted to the boats in the harbor. He asked there be no time of year on construction. The SSA causes lots of turbidity every time they turn around so any potential turbidity from the use of this pier would be negligible.

Ms. Demel asked about the length of the pier and Mr. Crocker stated 300 feet and are just widening the “T” by five feet.

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Ms. Hambrecht asked about the pilings and Mr. Crocker offered that they plan to completely replace the pilings which are being eaten by worms. They've already bolted pilings next to pilings to shore them up but the number of pilings will stay the same.

Lastly, they will be using greenheart wood for the pilings to replace the untreated oak pilings which didn't last long.

Mr. Best wondered if the deck on the beach will be raised up as well and Mr. Crocker stated that the height of the beach is increasing so they will have to raise the pier section, similarly to how it will be raised over the water and bring it down by the parking lot to grade.

Ms. Robinson wondered if they have had this reviewed by Waterways and Mr. Crocker answered in the affirmative and also recommended the project.

Ms. Robinson suggested conditioning the project that as little plastic as possible be used so it doesn't break apart and disburse around the harbor. Mr. Crocker stated that the only plastic will be the fixtures that hold the lights.

Lynn Fraker asked if this has gone to DEP and Jane answered in the affirmative. She inquired about this project being located under NHESP jurisdiction. She also took issue with the incompleteness of the notice of intent filing, which she knew was completed by Jane on behalf of the Harbormaster's office.

Ms. Fraker asked if the as-built plans were reviewed and Jane stated that DEP accepted what was sent.

(The Administrator's computer connection was lost at this point for 10 minutes).

Ms. Weaver motioned to approve the application with the condition that they return with any changes to the plans, if any. Ms. Little second the motion. It was unanimously approved by roll-call vote.

22-7: Guggenheim Productions Inc. – 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Robinson opened the public hearing for the relocation and raising of a dwelling with related site activity.

Joe Dick, architect, explained that this is a beach cottage which needs to be raised four feet, and slid on its axis eight feet, not closer to the harbor, they could then rotate the stair and deck and keep it all on this property. They don't plan to renovate or change the structure. The deck will be rebuilt in the same footprint. The structure will be placed on 8 helical piles.

Jane asked how the building will be moved and Mr. Dick stated that they will install the 2 sets of piles in the ground first, slide it over, install the next piles and slide again.

Jane asked for a more complete construction narrative.

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Mr. Best asked if Casey Decker will be addressing the retaining wall and Mr. Dick answered in the affirmative, but didn't know if it will stay in place or be moved.

Mr. Best thought it important to have elevations of the wall and the location of the velocity zone and commented that once the building is raised the wall may break up.

Jane pointed out that there are a few unanswered questions. She suggested they meet with Ross at the site.

The hearing was postponed until April 5 or until such time as the information is received.

Ms. Robinson also asked for landscaping plan and restoration plantings.

Jane asked for a section of the stairs as well and a replanting plan for the areas where the stairs are removed.

Business

Mr. Best asked if the commissioners had any ideas for the use of CPC funds. Ms. Hambrecht suggested they look into hiring someone to remove the phragmites at the park. Ms. Weaver suggested they inquire about the removal of derelict boats in need of removal as well. No one was quite sure if the commission had the ability to initiate projects under which they had jurisdiction.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Barbera
Administrator