

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

MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2022

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

22-15: Town of Tisbury & Board of Selectmen– 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Robinson opened the public meeting for the placement of a geo-grid within the Tashmoo beach parking lot.

John Crocker attended via Zoom. He explained that with a grant from the Planning & Fishing Access Board the town will lay geo-grid mats to help drivers from getting their cars stuck in the sand, which happens quite often.

Their method will be to scrape a few inches of sand, lay the geo-textile and then the geo-grid after which they will cover all with sand. The Department of Public Works will perform the work.

Ms. Weaver reported that the MV Land Bank Commission wondered what would happen in a big storm event if the sand washes away.

Mr. Crocker responded that they could remove the grid prior to the storm.

Ms. Weaver wondered about other locations where the grid has been used and Jane responded that she knows about a beach in Westport which is barrier beach where the grid has been used successfully and without hardener.

Mr. Robinson stated that these mats link together and can be moved in large pieces if necessary.

Mr. Best wondered how the mats are held down and Mr. Crocker stated that long hooks are used measuring about one foot and are meant to be driven over.

Ms. Robinson inquired if there was any other material that could be used other than plastic and Mr. Cocker responded that this was the only material they found that would accomplish their goal.

Mr. Best asked why another layer of geo textile over the top and Mr. Robinson agreed that this extra layer shouldn't be necessary.

Page 2 – Minutes of June 14, 2022

Ms. Weaver motioned to close the hearing. Mr. Best second the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Ms. Robinson motioned to deny the application. Mr. Best second the motion. Except for Ms. Robinson, there were no other votes in favor.

After discussion it was determined that making a motion in the affirmative was always better.

Mr. Robinson commented that this grid should be stable it being large and held down.

Mr. Best motioned to approve the application with conditions. Ms. Little second the motion.

A condition should include that if there are indications that the grid is breaking apart or if the plastic is breaking down then Mr. Crocker should return to this commission with pictures; a precutting should be done off site; a pre-construction meeting with the Conservation agent and installers.

Jane suggested moving the large rocks to the edge of the parking area at the middle to end of August.

No fabric will be used on the top layer.

The motion to approve was voted in favor by Ms. Weaver, Mr. Best, Mr. Robinson, Ms. Little and Ms. Hambrecht. Ms. Robinson voted vehemently in opposition to the use of this material.

Discussion:

Committee appointments:

John Best was re-appointed to the CPC; Ms. Little was re-appointed to the Site Plan Review Committee and Ms. Robinson was re-appointed to the Land Bank Advisory Committee.

Violation:

There has been a great deal of cutting on the Mark Mszanski property. Jane will be sending out an enforcement order and Mr. Robinson suggested a site inspection.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Barbera

Administrator