

Conservation Commission  
Zoom Minutes April 19, 2022 9:00 AM  
Zoom: 932 2308 2977  
FINAL

Present for the Conservation Commission and attending the zoom call were: Chris Murphy (Chair) Pam Goff, Candy Shweder, Sandy Broyard, Joan Malkin, Russell Maloney, Sarah Khedouri, and Kara Shemeth (staff).

Commissioners NOT in attendance: Doug West, Bob Hungerford

Also in attendance: Paul Darrow, Scott Darling, Harbormaster Ryan Rossi, Jeffrey DuBard, and Reid Silva

**9:00 – Notice of Intent – Public Hearing**

Applicants: Paul & Jody Darrow

Address: 18 Greenhouse Lane

Representative: Reid Silva, VLS

Project: 20" COIR log installation at bottom of bank

Scott Darling advised that the steps were owned by the lane and the property belonging to his family (AP 30-117) has an easement/ROW allowing owners along Greenhouse Lane to access the beach. He stated that this particular set of stairs had been in for 10-15 years and were very solid despite how the bank behind the stairs looks.

**Action:** A motion was made and seconded to close the public hearing.

Passed unanimously via roll call vote

**Action:** A motion was made a seconded to approve as presented with the standard and following conditions:

- The applicant is responsible for the removal of the COIR logs if they become compromised.
- Per DEP recommendations, the applicant will provide an annual a monitoring plan to document the change in beach elevation in front of the envelopes and also bank erosion adjacent to the envelopes.
- Materials are to be brought to the beach and installed by hand. Any necessary hand tools requiring fuel shall be fueled outside the buffer zone.

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- There shall be no large trucks involved in this project, materials to be delivered by pickup truck or small dump truck/ flatbed.
- Passed via roll call vote 4 yea 1 nay (C. Murphy)

**Discussions:**

Menemsha Comfort Station

Harbormaster Rossi asked to discuss the Comfort Station as there is some confusion over who is in charge of it. Chris Murphy advised that the Select Board are the landlords but all of Menemsha falls within Conservation Commission jurisdiction.

Ryan explained the work being done, he and Kara Shemeth (Conservation Agent) had spoken regarding the minor exterior repairs and interior work and Kara advised that the work was minor enough to go forward. During the repairs, *rosa rugosa* was pulled out (to be replaced) and the ramps were rebuilt which was slightly more than discussed and resulted in several calls to different town boards. Harbormaster Rossi would like to continue the work and put down some shell cover between the walkways to clean up the area. He was advised to put together a list of the repairs he wanted to do, and the ones that were done, and file a Request for Determination of Applicability so that the Con Com can officially weigh in.

Jeffrey Dubard

Mr. Dubard recently purchased the Cosutta property (AP 13- 18, 19, 24) which includes 50+ acres of conservation property. Per the Conservation Restriction (CR), public access is not permitted and Mr. Dubard hopes to allow public access and create trails and vantage points that creates a dialog with the natural environment. He hopes to work with a conservation group to make the property a place of learning and accessibility. His question is regarding the CR, it is felt that the previous owner added the portion regarding public access in an effort to keep the public off the property while the new owner would like the opposite and will be seeking legal counsel regarding the access. The Conservation Commissioners saw no objection to allowing public access but advised Mr. Dubard that he should do the homework and come back with a proposal if his legal team determines that public access could be allowed.

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6 Eddy Farm Road Trench

Reid Silva presented a plan to fill the trench back in (in file)

**Action:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the VLS trench restoration plan with a VLS representative, Carlos Montoya and Kara Shemeth being present when the work is done, as well as a translator, if necessary.

Passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Sica Property

Kara advised that a property on Gosnolds Way (AP 20-28) seems to have wetland protection act and Chilmark bylaw violations. An Order was issued in 2016 for 4' paths and it has since expired. It looks like someone cleared up to the wetlands. This was just brought to Kara's attention a few days ago and she will look into it and update the Commission at the next meeting.

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 am

Respectfully submitted by Kara E. Shemeth, Conservation Agent

Materials Shared at Meeting:

Darrow – Aerial, Site Plan w/ profile

Dubard – aerial, concept drawings

Aerials of Gosnolds Way