

PROVINCETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

August 28, 2003
6:30 P.M.

Members Present: Susan Avellar, Paul Tasha and George Bryant.

Members Absent: Peter Souza and Sheila Benzer.

Others Present: Mark Latour and Ellen C. Battaglini (Recording Secretary).

Acting Chair Susan Avellar called the meeting to order at 6:50 P.M.

I. PUBLIC STATEMENTS:

Robert Valois – Robert Valois inquired of the Commission whether he needed to apply for a Determination of Applicability or a Notice of Intent for the property located at 45 Commercial Street. There will be a removal of a dormer and a skylight and an increase in the size of another dormer. Acting Chair Susan Avellar recommended that Mr. Valois apply for a Notice of Intent and the other Commissioners agreed.

Joshua Swerling, P.E. – Joshua Swerling, representing the Grand Union, discussed the issue of the septic system at the Grand Union. The system located at the premises has failed. The Board of Health has approved the septic upgrade and has ordered the work to be completed as soon as possible, but not after December 15, 2003. He has applied for a Notice of Intent that is scheduled to be heard at the September 25, 2003 hearing and is concerned about the time constraints placed on the project by the Board of Health. The Commission decided to conduct a site visit where they would meet with Mr. Swerling.

George Bryant stated that he is opposed and always was opposed to building on Great Pond. He will sit for a quorum, but will not sit on the application.

II. OTHER BUSINESS:

Presentation by Mark Adams of the Cape Cod National Seashore regarding trails at Herring Cove – Management Update

Mark Adams, a mapper for the Seashore, appeared to discuss how to minimize environmental damage, but still provide public access to, Herring Cove Beach and the dunes surrounding it. He would like feedback from the Commission concerning this issue. A site visit will be scheduled with Mr. Adams to look at the area in question. Mr. Adams phone number is 487-3262 and his e-mail address is mark_adams@nps.gov.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

Invasive Species Plan – AmeriCorps did attempt to remove the rampant loosestrife at Evans Field, however, the plant proved too hard to reach, too densely overgrown, and too difficult to remove by the roots, so the project was halted.

Discussion on Funding for a Conservation Agent – Mark Latour reported that the Board of Selectmen voted down the request for a Conservation Commission Agent at this time. The request must be brought forth during the budget process and will probably be a difficult request to grant. Perhaps the Commission could explore the possibility of sharing a Conservation Agent with the Town of Truro or other alternatives.

Community Visioning Exercise – Mark Latour discussed the issue with the Commission. He asked for input from the Commission as to what vision they had for the Town in the future. What would the Commission like to change about the Town, and what issues would they like the Town to be concerned with in the future? His suggestions included how the Town should allow residents to use their land, how to use what little green area is left in Town, and the installation of monitoring wells between wetlands and the Town wastewater leach field.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

481 Commercial Street – Winkler – Violation of Order of Conditions – Mr. Winkler appeared before the Commission. He had accessed the beach abutting 481 Commercial Street by a neighboring property, which was an incursion into the resource area and a violation of the Order of Conditions issued by the Commission. The Commission informed Mr. Winkler that he should not do that again or they may make him post a bond for future projects.

V. MINUTES:

August 14, 2003 – *Acting Chair Susan Avellar moved to approve the minutes of August 14, 2003, Paul Tasha seconded and it was so voted, 3-0.*

ADJOURNMENT:

Paul Tasha moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 P.M. and it was so voted unanimously.

These minutes were approved by a vote of the Conservation Commission at their meeting on September 25, 2003.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on September 25, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen C. Battaglini

Approved by _____ on _____, 2003
Susan Avellar, Acting Chair