

Shelter Island Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
November 16, 2009

Members Present: Chairman Ed Bausman, Mark Cappellino, Jay Card, Mary Shaw, Steven Python, Paulette Van Vranken, Tullia Limarzi, Town Liaison: Supervisor Dougherty

Members Excused: Peder Larsen

Others Present: Mike Laspia, Matt Sherman

Chairman Bausman opened the meeting at 7:32 PM

The minutes from October 19, 2009 were approved as amended to include Lots 53 and 54, from Dr. Courten, Tax Map Number 0770-13-2, as this land is contiguous with plot 0770-13-2 Lot 3, to the Crescent Beach Management Plan.

Old Business:

Management Plans:

Chairman Bausman stated that the CAC would like to finalize the Management plans for Dorsey, Dickerson, Fresh Pond, Sposato, Rasmussen and Cackle Hill, tonight, with the input of Mike Laspia of the CPFAB.

Mr. Laspia stated that the CPFAB is looking for more consistency in the plans. He stated that there is one line in the Dorsey Management Plan in the brief summary of the property, which is not included in the other Management Plans, and either should be included in them all or removed from the Dorsey Plan.

Mr. Laspia commented that the CPFAB believes that the creation of walking paths allows the public to better utilize the acquired properties for passive recreational use. The CAC expressed their disagreement as they feel walking paths are unnecessary and will require maintenance.

Member Limarzi stated that she approves of the creation of walking paths, and also stated that she has read the CAC Mission Statement, and noted that the CAC was created to advise the Town Board on conservation issues, not budget issues.

Member Shaw stated that she feels the properties were purchased for aquifer protection, and further stated that she is upset that after all the work the CAC has put into these plans, she feels that the CAC is now being asked to start all over. She further opined that she does not believe all the properties should be treated the same, as they are all unique properties, and should be treated as such.

Chairman Bausman stated that paths encourage people to use the properties, and people leave garbage, which requires an additional expense to hire a crew to clean it up.

Supervisor Dougherty stated that the CPF has stewardship money available to pay for the maintenance of trails.

Member Cappellino suggested the CAC and CPFAB work together to designate which properties should be used for aquifer protection only and which ones should be designated for public use.

The CAC noted that it would be helpful to create these Management Plans if the CPFAB would disclose the specific reasons for purchasing each property. Mr. Laspia indicated that he will bring the CAC comments and requests to the CPFAB.

Member Cappellino suggested the CAC table this discussion so as to move forward with the agenda and review and discuss the wetland application for Zagoreos.

The CAC agreed to table this discussion and move onto the wetland application.

New Business:

Wetland Application:

Zagoreos: 28 Ram Island Drive:

CAC reviewed and discussed this wetland application for removal of an existing fire damaged single family dwelling and septic system from within the regulated area and allowing temporary intrusion into the regulated area to enable proposed construction.

Mr. Matt Sherman stated that the Zagoreos have received a DEC permit to demolish the existing house and rebuild a new house requiring it be pushed back landward of the existing house to meet FEMA regulations. They also have received SCHD approval and now need to receive Shelter Island Town wetland approval for the demolition of the old house and abandoning the septic system.

He stated that the new house does not require a wetland permit as it will be greater than 100 from the regulated area.

He stated that the Town Board feels that this application needs to be reviewed by the ZBA for a Special Permit, which he disagrees with, because the code says any use that was existing at the time the code was adopted does not require a Special Permit from the ZBA. He stated that this was a developed residential property when the code was developed. He stated that that is a separate issue from this wetland permit.

Member VanVranken noted that prickly pear, which is an endangered species, grows all over this property, and asked how it would be protected. Mr. Sherman said that this issue has not been addressed yet.

Member Card asked if the CPFAB has considered purchasing this property. Mr. Sherman stated that they have approached the CPFAB and were told that there is no CPF money available for purchase of this property.

The CAC unanimously agreed that this is an environmentally sensitive area, and after careful review and discussion they agreed that it would be best to preserve and protect this area and consider measures that could be taken to accomplish this before rendering a recommendation to the Town Board on the submitted application.

Member Card motion to send a formal recommendation to the CPFAB to purchase this property and restore it to a natural state to protect the eel grass stand, protect Coecles Harbor from nitrogen loading, protect the adjoining marsh and protect the biodiversity and ecological productivity of the bay bottoms. Member Python second the motion, all in favor.

Member Cappellino motion to table any recommendation to the Town Board on the submitted application until the CAC receives a response from the CPFAB. Member VanVranken second the motion. All in favor.

Management Plans:

The CAC reviewed and discussed the Management Plan for Tedford and agreed to name it Cobbetts Preserve.

Member Python motion to forward the Cobbetts Preserve Management Plan to the CPFAB. Member Card second the motion, all in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 PM.

Next Meeting Date: **Monday, December 21, 2009**@ 7:30 PM Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle LiCausi

Clerk to the Committees
