WEST TISBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 22, 2011

Present: Prudy Burt Chair, Joanie Ames, Nora Nevin, Binnie Ravitch, Peter Rodegast, Tara Whiting, Whit Griswold and Maria McFarland

Also present for all or part of the meeting: Chris Alley, Don Ward, Tracy Benware and Reid Silva

Prudy Burt called the meeting to order at 5:05 P.M.

The minutes of the March 8th meeting were approved with corrections.

Map 11 Lot 36/SE79-306: continuation of a public hearing on a **Notice of Intent** to construct a bridge and driveway over a vegetated wetland in order to access a residential building site. At the request of George Sourati, the applicant's representative, a motion was made and seconded to continue the public hearing on this matter to April 13, 2011 at 5:10 PM. All in favor.

Map 6 Lot 14.1/SE79-308: a public hearing on **a Notice of Intent** filed by Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn Inc., on behalf of Robert J. Bishop for property owned by G.J. Gillespie III and D.E. Graham, Trustees, located at **155 John Cottle Road.** The project consists of work associated with making repairs to an existing dam spillway and concrete wall, and replacing the driveway decking. The driveway provides access to Mr. Bishop's property at 104 Old Herring Creek Road, Map 6 Lot 11.

This property is on the west side of James Pond accessed through Bill Graham's property known as Mohu. There is a second access which will be used while the work is being done. The approximately.120 feet long dam has several spots that are in disrepair and the culvert is failing in several place.

Chris reviewed the site plan. There is an abutment on both sides of the road. The drop is steep on the east and shallower on the west side. The pond is approximately 4 feet deep at the deepest spot. The pond is spring fed. There is very little fluctuation in the amount of discharge from the pond. Don Ward is the Bishop's caretaker and is very familiar with the site conditions. Three quarters to an inch of water is coming over the spillway that discharges into a stream that feeds out to Vineyard Sound.

Construction elements:

1) The concrete retaining wall on the upstream side has sections missing. (This is not shown on the project plan.) Form work will be placed between the existing good sections and concrete poured to bring the top of the wall back together. Rebar will be drilled into the existing wall. The biggest gap is 15 feet wide.

2) There is a continuous scour at the water line along the bottom of the wall that is approximately 3 inches deep and 6 inches high where the ice has ground away at the concrete. Once the pond level is lowered and the wall dried out, they will patch the wall using mesh and plaster to parge along the wall.

3) The wing walls of the culvert that transition into the spillway are useless. One side is completely broken, and the other side has only part of a control slot to drop boards to control the pond level. The control boards haven't been used in a long time and they do not plan to reestablish them so that the

water level in the pond can not be raised. The side walls are at a 90 degree angle. Chris proposes cutting the side walls back and cut in a mitered 45 degree angle.

4) The spillway is an open top box culvert spillway with two concrete walls and what is left of a concrete floor. There is a timber deck over the top. The floor of the spillway has had material loss below it so that the floor is suspended in spots. The section of the floor that is failing will be taken out, crushed stone and mesh will be put down and a new floor will be poured. There is an old pipe with a wire going through it that will be taken out and the hole patched. The floor will be poured from wall to wall on the downstream end and on a slope.

Dewatering:

Chris proposed using a siphon to control the pond elevation during the dewatering process. The pond is 9 feet higher than the discharge below. Don Ward did an experiment to see how it would work. It took one hour with two hoses to drop the pond level to the bottom of the concrete wall. At times the pond exhibits a lot of turbidity and other times it is fairly clear. They will take efforts to keep inlet pipes above the bottom of the pond. The project plan shows the details of a hay bale and silt fence and settling/retention basin. This will serve to mitigate the discharge of sediment in order to avoid downstream siltation. The surface water going over the spillway is clear. There will be some disturbance while the retention basis is installed. It was decided that it would be better to keep the dewatering system running 24/7 instead of shutting it off at the end of the work day. This will keep the wall dry and give the repairs time to take hold. The height to which the pond will be drawn down to is 17 to 18 inches. The hoses will be set at elevation 15. All elevations are shown on the plan.

Construction Sequence:

The construction notes on the plan were reviewed. The notes will suffice as the construction sequence. Chris estimated it will take a week to do this work depending on the weather with as much work being done offsite as possible. Work will be done from the driveway, not from the pond. The top of the wall will be done first, then the sides. For the culvert repairs, the bottom of wing walls first. Flowable fill will be used inside the dam. The last thing will be the replacement of the timber structure over the culvert.

Discussion:

Prudy asked how long it will take for the repair material to set up on the face of the dam and why they were doing a repair rather than replacing the culvert. Chris said that over all is what less disruptive, it can be done more quickly, the dam itself doesn't need to be excavated, and the dewatering is simpler. The whole pond doesn't need to be dewatered. It was noted that pipes are less desirable than a culvert according to the stream crossing guidelines. Chris said he has years of experience as a dam engineer.

Peter asked if there could be any water getting underneath the floor of the culvert that you don't know about? Don Ward said that he drew the water down below the dam line when they did the dewatering test. No water is going through the dam after that. The water was drawn down 2 inches below the overflow. Currently water is getting into the overflow and then going out the sides.

Public comment:

Dan Ward said he has been the Bishop's care taker 10 years. He is very familiar with the plan and feels confident that he can do this work in an orderly sequence and keep the site in good shape.

Prudy emphasized to the parties that this project needs to be conducted an orderly and workman like manner following the construction sequence.

Prudy closed the public hearing. A motion was made and seconded to approve the project as presented and as shown on the plan. There being a no further discussion, the vote in favor was unanimous.

The special conditions were discussed. Erosion control measures and dewatering plan will be as shown on the project plan. A preconstruction site visit will be required. Daily monitoring will be required by a registered engineer. A motion was made and seconded to approve the special conditions. All in favor.

Map 23 Lot 6: public meeting to consider a **Request for Determination of Applicability** filed by Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering Inc. on behalf of James and Amanda Moffat, owners of property located at **90 Tisbury Lane West**. The project consists of the drilling of a new 4" PVC well and trenching to install water and electric lines from the new well to the existing water line to serve an existing single family dwelling. Reid presented the project for the Moffats.

Discussion: The original well drilled in 2010 was producing 5 gallons of water per minute, but starting having problems with low flow over the summer. The water pressure was down to 3 gallons per minute or less. If the property owner had known that this was going to happen, they would have placed the well in a different location. The septic system is designed for a 10 bedroom house. Guest house and studio have been built. The main house has yet to be designed.

If the new well gets good water, i.e. 20 gallons per minute, which is doubtful, the existing well will be abandoned.

.

Erosion control measures during drilling will be located as shown on the project plan.

Prudy asked if two wells were ok with Board of Health. Reid responded that the Board of Health would not be happy if they were proposing multiple wells for irrigation.

John Clark is the well driller and Michael Barclay is the architect. No intention to increase yield over the state standards for potability and yield.

A motion was made and seconded to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability. The new well does not require further permitting by the Commission. All in favor.

New Business:

Revetments: Joanie Ames reported on a presentation on revetments and alternatives to hard structures by Seth Wilkinson, Restoration Ecologist of Wilkinson Ecological Design's at a Vineyard Conservation Society Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Wilkinson is also on the board of Directors of MACC and is familiar with the Endofthedirtroad LLC project. He suggested to Joanie that the Commission might want to approach MACC to see if they would be willing to write a pro-bono Amicus Brief on this matter if and when the Bylaw matter goes to trial. No action was taken.

CPC Committee: Peter updated the members on the warrant articles concerning the percentage for CPA funds.

Old Business:
Map 6 Lot 8: Reid submitted the revised plan as requested at the last meeting**.**

Map 7 Lot 142/SE76-276/Ferry: A motion was made and seconded to approve a 3 year extension permit (until 3/20/2014) for this Order of Conditions. All in favor.

Administrative:
Time and bills on hand were signed.

Correspondence:

In: Copy of letter from Cooper Environmental Services to Barbara Kravitz dated March 13, 2011 re: delineation
Out: Letter to Callie Silva regarding consultant fee

There being no other business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria McFarland
Board Administrator
APPROVED