

MINUTES

Flood & Erosion Control Board Meeting of April 1, 2015

Present for the Board: Frank Donaldson (Chair)

Thomas Hood Edward Picard Preston Koster Arthur Greenberg

Present for the Department of Public Works: Keith Wilberg, PE, LS

Frank Donaldson (Chair) opened the meeting at 7:30 pm.

1. 14 Quarter Mile Road/P&Z Application #15-017; Application of Eric Bernheim for a 1 lot subdivision.

The project was presented by Bernard Nevas, one of the owners of the property.

There were questions from the Board regarding if the presenter was an owner of the property, and if so, did he live on the parcel; the nature of the street trees on the parcel; the construction sequencing and the sedimentation and erosion controls; the soil testing for the site; the history of the subdivision of this parcel, and how it is atypical with respect to the usual subdivision process; that there are no WPL, FEMA, or flooding issues; one single-family dwelling is proposed to be built.

Per the Chair's request, Keith Wilberg summarized the Engineering Department's review of the project, stating that is was substantially in compliance with the Town of Westport requirements. It was stated that the soil testing indicated that the soils were good for drainage, and that there were no WPLO, FEMA, or flooding issues. This site is well suited for this type of proposed development.

The Chair asked if there were any comments or questions from the Public. There were none.

The Board went into Work Session. The following standard Conditions of Approval were deemed appropriate: Nos. 2, 9, 11, 14, 15, and 17.

DECISION: Proposed Project Approved, 5(Y)-0(N), with the above referenced Conditions of Approval.

At this point, the Board continued its work session, and revisited an approval from last months' meeting, 03/04/2015, 79 Newtown Turnpike, which was proposing some minor amendments.

2. **79 Newtown Turnpike/Application IWW/WPL/E #9964-15.** Application of Barr Associates for the expansion of an existing place-of-worship, the demolition of an existing residence, and associated site improvements. Work is within the WPLO setback of unnamed wetlands.

Per the Chair's request, Keith Wilberg summarized the Engineering Department's review of the revisions to the project. It was stated that soil testing had been recently performed in the area of the rear of the parking lot, nearest the wetland. Both the Conservation Department and the Engineering Department were present at the soil testing. Both Conservation and Engineering agreed that the soils were not conducive to the originally proposed and approved grass paver design, and that an alternate design was needed. It was then stated that the applicant had submitted a new design wherein the grass pavers were to be replaced with a parking area made of asphalt within the limits of its existing footprint. In addition to this revision, the parking area was to be re-graded in order to lessen the grade, so as to slow down the runoff, and a bio-swale was proposed along the back of the parking area, along its boundary with the wetland, in order to mitigate water quality issues. It was also agreed that removing the existing pavement and installing a new viable sub-base would create a much larger environmental issue than would replacing the grass pavers with an asphalt surface as the revision is proposing.

The Board agreed that they had no objections to the revisions to this proposal, and that the approval from last month would stand, including any conditions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Donaldson, Chairman Flood and Erosion Control Board

TBH/ksw

Cc: First Selectman, Town Attorney, Director of Public Works, Director of Planning and Zoning, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Conservation Director, Building Official, RTM Environmental Committee, Chairman Public Works Committee, Applicants, League of Women Voters