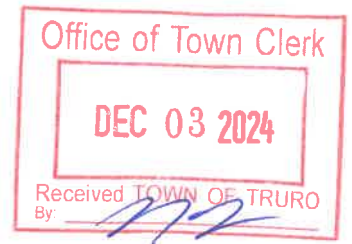




## TOWN OF TRURO CONSERVATION COMMISSION

P.O. Box 2030  
Truro MA 02666-0630



### **Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes: October 7, 2024**

**Commissioners Present:** Chair Carol Girard-Irwin, Vice Chair Linda Noons-Rose, Commissioners Bob White, Diane Messinger, Clint Kershaw, and Connie Mather.

**Others Present:** Emily Beebe, Conservation Agent; Courtney Warren, Assistant Conservation Agent; Select Board member Nancy Medoff (present virtually)

This was a hybrid meeting with both in-person and remote participants. Chair Carol Girard-Irwin called the meeting and public hearings to order at 5:00 pm and provided the virtual meeting instructions.

**Notice of Intent: 20 Toms Hill Road, Joseph Fiorello:** demolish and replace dwelling (this was a previously approved project with an expired OOC); Riverfront Area & Buffer Zone to a Coastal Bank. (Map 46, Parcel 342) Because a DEP file# has not yet been issued, representative Ross Silva requested a continuance until the November 4, 2024 meeting.

**Motion:** Chair Carol Girard-Irwin moved to continue the hearing until November 4, 2024; **Second:** Commissioner Linda Noons-Rose; **Vote:** 6-0-0; the motion carried.

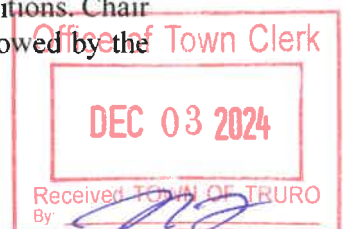
**Notice of Intent: 10 Thornley Meadow Road, Roland & Lucia Letendre:** after-the-fact filing for beach stair replacement and beach grass trimming; Coastal Bank & Coastal Dune. (Map 53, Parcel 87) (*continued from 9/9/2024*) Mashall Puffer stated that Tighe & Bond had recently been hired to address this after-the-fact filing. He shared a presentation detailing the history of the project and the current proposal. After discussions with the Letendres and the abutter who shares the stairs, they are proposing to maintain the inground timbers that were installed without a permit and would provide mitigation for that. The mitigation would include planting beach grass to maintain the path, an elevated platform for the storage of kayaks, beach chairs, etc. Additionally, the path to the house would be delineated with native species such as bayberry. The Agent stated that the site plan would need to be revised to include delineations of the resource areas as requested. All unpermitted work should be clearly indicated on the plan as well as all proposed mitigation including a planting plan. Commissioner Linda Noons-Rose noted the importance of having the site staked prior to the commissioners' site visit. Commissioner Bob White asked that more details be provided about the proposed raised platform such as size, construction materials, height, spacing, etc. Commissioner Clint Kershaw noted that the "new" steps were already being undermined and that issue would need to be addressed. The Agent also requested the applicant provide more information about the Conservation Restriction that exists on part of the property. Abutter Yvette Dubinsky stated that the path was on her property at 4 Button Hill Rd and not 10 Thornley Meadow. She was aware that the Letendres had improved the stairs and spoke in support of them but said she had not been notified of these meetings. The Agent again stated that an updated site plan that clearly shows the unpermitted work be provided and also suggested to the Commission that abutters be renotified. Marshall Puffer requested a continuance until the December 2, 2024

meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Linda Noons-Rose moved to continue the hearing until December 2, 2024 with the condition that abutters be renotified; **Second:** Commissioner Bob White; **Vote:** 6-0-0; the motion carried.

**Notice of Intent: 17 Avocet Road, Jennifer & Michael Freitag:** replacement of sand drift fence, coir logs, and beach stairs; Coastal Beach; Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, and Coastal Bank. (Map 39, Parcel 217) Jennifer Crawford and several other members of the project team were present virtually for the meeting. She described the property and the proposed project. There are pilings on the beach from an old serpentine fence and the existing access stairway is in need of repair. This property was part of a multi-property toe stabilization effort that began with coir tubes which were later replaced with a fiber roll installation, but now has some slumping. The proposed project has four elements. The first is the replacement of the access stairway in the same location with slight configuration changes. The second is the replacement of the fiber roll array. They propose to start below grade at the elevation of mean high water and extend up to the 15' flood elevation. The array would be wrapped in burlap or similar material to provide UV protection while waiting for nourishment. This new array would be woven into the arrays on the adjacent properties. The third element is the installation of a sturdy drift fence proposed to be constructed of greenheart oak. The existing pilings would be reused if possible, but this fence is proposed to be much lower to protect the lower portion of the coir array. The final project elements would be nourishment and revegetation of a bare area on the bank. Access for this project would ideally be from Cold Storage Beach but a backup plan for access over the bank is also included. Chair Carol Girard-Irwin noted that the original installation was in 2011 which was replaced in early 2020. These installations were four rolls high, which is the limit according to the Truro Conservation By-laws. She also stated that the by-laws call for a 25' set back to abutting properties. The Agent said that this is the largest array that has been proposed in town. She noted that we have detailed photographic evidence of the array on this property. It appears to be in good shape but there was an issue with some cables being cut, leading to some disrepair. The Agent would like to get an opinion from Bryan McCormack from the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension and is particularly interested in how this would mesh with the properties to either side. The setback for the fence is 25' but the coir is less (15'). She suggested discussing each element of this large project in sections.

**Coir:**

Commissioner Clint Kershaw asked the total length of the property. It is ~150 feet. He also suggested that since the current installation seemed to be working well, renourishing what is existing and rebuilding the fence might be considered. Tara Marden, consultant, detailed some of the permitting history of the property and stated that the original installation was coir envelopes but that replacement of those with fiber rolls was considered maintenance under the existing on-going conditions. She was not aware of any site plans for this replacement and noted that the 17 Avocet Rd installation is one row shorter than the neighboring properties. The Agent clarified that the original coir envelopes that were installed disintegrated and Stan Humphries proposed adding the coir rolls on top of the bank as maintenance under the on-going conditions. That work was approved by DEP and the Conservation Commission at the time and nourishment links it all together. She wondered if the existing array could be repaired under the same on-going conditions. Chair Carol Girard-Irwin asked a clarifying question about the number of rolls allowed by the



by-laws. The Agent confirmed that it says four rolls but that something different could be approved. She also noted the need to document what is on the abutting properties. She also asked about a 2024 repair that was described as retensioning of the anchors. Commissioner Linda Noons-Rose was concerned about what would happen if the coir rolls broke loose and asked how these would be anchored. Nick Crawford answered that the bottom roll of the array is the foundation and stated that was the reason for the greater number of buried rolls. He also noted that these rolls are proposed to have four duckbill anchors above and four below. These anchors are a minimum of 4' deep.

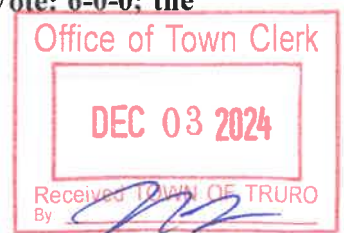
Stairs:

Commissioner Clint Kershaw asked for clarification on the method of installation of the stairs and how the posts would be installed into the bank. Structural engineer Lars Jensen noted that framing detail is described on the plan and Nick Crawford stated that ideally they would be installed from the bottom up by hand. Commissioner Linda Noons-Rose commented that the proposed resting area was rather large and seemed more like a deck. Jen Crawford noted that the square feet of coverage of the proposed stairs is less than the existing stairs. Engineer Lars Jensen explained that the orientation of the platform at 90 degrees helps keep a lower profile.

Commissioner Bob White asked the Agent about the number of rolls. Are 11 rolls allowable or not? The Agent replied that other than the base it seems similar to what is on the abutting properties. She would like to get Bryan McCormack's opinion on this matter since this is the largest installation that has been proposed in Truro.

Abutter Wendy Lurie wants to be clear that the 25' setback on either side is adhered to. She didn't realize there was a plan to bury more than one roll and wants to understand how digging down to install this won't disturb both the bank and the beach. Why is the slope ratio different than what their installations are? Will the setbacks apply to the underground logs as well? Abutter Rick Summers also wondered how the new coir will mesh with the old logs that span the two properties. Will there be any junctions at the property line? How will new layers below be tied into the existing layers? Nick Crawford agreed to provide a more detailed sketch showing how the connections will be made. Jen Crawford requested a continuance until the November 4, 2024 meeting. **Motion: Commissioner Bob White moved to continue the hearing until the November 4, 2024 meeting; Second: Commissioner Linda Noons-Rose; Vote: 6-0-0; the motion carried.**

**Request for Determination of Applicability: 655 & 657 Shore Road, Diane Gilmore & Claudia Dent:** installation of gas tanks and a raised generator; Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Barrier Beach, Coastal Dune. (Map 2, Parcel 1) Representative Annie Groth described the request to install a generator to power both properties. The generator would be located in front of the shed on a 24" platform (1' above the foundation). The propane tanks that supply the generator would be located the required 10' away and be raised. Commissioner Clint Kershaw asked the Agent if there were any requirement for the propane tanks to be on a slab and anchored. She replied yes and that they would be inspected. Representative Annie Groth specifically thanked Assistant Agent Arozana Davis for her help with this application. **Motion: Commissioner Clint Kershaw moved for a negative 3 determination; Second: Commissioner Bob White; Vote: 6-0-0; the motion carried.**



**Administrative Review Applications:** 1.) **8 Falcon Lane:** dead tree removal; 2.) **386 Shore Road:** sand nourishment; 3.) **490 Shore Road:** replace middle whalers on bulkhead; 4.) **510 Shore Road, Unit: A:** rinse station; 5.) **472 Shore Road:** sand nourishment; 6.) **25 Bay View Road:** sand nourishment; 7.) **1 Merryfield Path:** sand nourishment; 8.) **0 Bay View Road:** sand nourishment; 9.) **17 Bay View Road:** sand nourishment; 10.) **29 Bay View Road:** sand nourishment; 11.) **19 Bay View Road:** sand nourishment; 12.) **55 Pond Road:** sand nourishment; 13.) **4 Bay View Path:** sand nourishment; 14.) **23 Bay View Road:** sand nourishment; 15.) **2 Bay View Path:** sand nourishment; 16.) **1 Circuit Way:** vegetation plantings **Motion:** Commissioner Clint Kershaw moved to approve the administrative Review permit applications; **Second:** Chair Carol Girard-Irwin; **Vote:** 6-0-0; the motion carried.

**Request for Certificate of Compliance:** 1.) 73 Depot Road, SE# 75-1127 **Motion:** Chair Carol Girard-Irwin moved to approve the COC request for 73 Depot Road; **Second:** Commissioner Diane Messinger; **Vote:** 6-0-0; the motion carried.

**Minutes** July 1, 2024, August 5, 2024 **Motion:** Commissioner Clint Kershaw moved to approve the minutes from July 1, 2024 and the minutes from August 5, 2024 as presented; **Second:** Commissioner Diane Messinger; **Vote:** 6-0-0; the motion carried.

Commissioner Clint Kershaw has noticed that mitigation is not defined in our regulations and would like to have a discussion about mitigation on the next agenda.

The Commissioners would also like to have a discussion of the cleanup of storm debris from the beach drift fences.

**Commissioner Bob White moved to adjourn the meeting; Second: Commissioner Diane Messinger; Vote: 6-0-0; the motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted by Courtney Warren*

