

Town of Nahant  
Conservation Commission  
September 21, 2022 at 7:00 PM

**Attendance:** Eden Reiner, Henry Hall, Skylar Tibbits, Colleen Collins, Kristin Kent

**Chairman Tom Famulari opened the meeting at 7:04 pm**

- 1. Notice of Intent, Nahant Bay Eelgrass harvesting for transplantation to Hingham Bay within Land Under the Ocean.** Mass Marine Fisheries (DMF) spokesperson Forest Schenck, forest.schenck@mass.gov, works for the habitat program and stated he would give an update as to where the project stands. Hingham Bay Eelgrass Restoration Objectives are to restore ½ acre of eelgrass in Hingham Bay to be utilized recreationally and commercially. DMF harvested 10-20 shoots/meter squared in Nahant, at a site where the typical density is 200-300 shoots/meter squared. He stated “eel grass is pretty resilient.” Adult shoots were transferred as rhizomes and woven into burlap discs. Scuba divers planted these discs on the sea floor in Hingham in the Spring of 2022. The harvesting occurred in May prior to Nahant Conservation Commission approval. Test plot monitoring has not demonstrated survival and they are not currently planning to harvest more until they have a better understanding of what went wrong. Nahant Conservation Agent Kristin Kent noted that this project did not have a DEP file # issued and should not have proceeded. Mark Patek made a motion for a continuance and Skylar Tibbits seconded, Commission members unanimously approved the continuance.

- 2. Continued Request to Amend Order of Conditions, 4 White Way (047-0593)**

**Request to change mitigation measures for work within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding.** Owner David Seetaram shared specifications of the swale proposed by Hayes Engineering which will allow water to flow naturally from 4 White Way to the rear of Steve Arzillos property on Willow Rd. Chairman Tom Famulari pointed out that the rim of the manhole is 5.2 and the 25 ft of swale from the curb cut is higher than the catch basin stating; “our position on the commission is to make the necessary changes so the neighbors are not unhappy.” The Owner maintains that he is the lowest point on the street. Public input:

Mike Hayes 3 White Way stated he was “seeing the plans for the first time tonight” and “whatever needs to be lowered I hope that gets done before David moves away.” Carol Hayes would like the current owner to submit a statement that the work will get done to the specifications of ConCom and the town. They request DPW review the swale proposal prior to the site visit, and abutters ask to attend the site visit. Mark Patek recommends the order of condition for the swale be in perpetuity. Tom Famulari stated that if the swale didn’t prove to work the proposal would not be approved.

Mark Pillsbury 1 White Way stated the swale “seems like a good solution, I’m all for it.”

Conservation agent recommends site visit the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October, motion made by Colleen for a site visit, seconded by Mark Patek, passes unanimously, Owner to contact the Engineer for site visit on 9/29 or 10/6 at 8 am. Eden motioned for a continuance, Skylar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

#### **Other Business**

**Adoption of electronic signatures-** motion made by Mark Patek to accept electronic signatures, Eden Reiner seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was held and passed unanimously

**Need to choose a Chair-** committee still mulling over options, at this time favoring taking turns in the position

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm

Meeting minutes prepared by ConCom member Colleen Collins