

Aquinnah Conservation Commission (ACC) Minutes

Site visit conducted at 3:30 PM March 12, 2024, at Tribal Admin. Bldg.

March 12, 2024, Meeting opened at 4 PM (Town Hall offices)

Members Present: Jay Bodnar, Mitzi Pratt, Kathy Newman, Steve Yaffe, Sarah Thulin

Also Present: George Sourati, Bret Stearns, Dave Zimmerman

Motion and second to approve the minutes from February 15, 2024, meeting. Mitzi, Kathy and Sarah voted aye. Steve and Jay abstained due to their absence. Motion passed.

Hearing opened at 4:05 PM to act on the NOI filed by the Wampanoag Tribe of GH/Aquinnah for the installation and maintenance of a 1,662' low pressure sewer main, two pump stations and associated components to connect the sewage flows from the admin. Bldg. to an existing sewage treatment plant. Work is partially located within 100 feet of a BVW.

George Sourati and Bret Stearns explained the project and the intention to replace the closets toilet systems now in the administration building and connect the plumbing to the existing sewage treatment plant which has more than enough capacity. Dave Zimmerman confirmed that the new housing project will also be connected. The tribe is applying for a grant to cover this project and if there is enough money to use directional boring instead of trenching the long distance necessary...that would be their preference. If trenching is used it would be done in sections and filled in at the end of every day. There will be erosion control protection in place where any digging is within 75 feet of a BVW. All material will be placed back in the trench or removed and properly disposed of. After the ACC members review of the project and questions concerning the project, a motion was made and seconded to approve the project with the following conditions:

1. While the ACC prefers directional boring it is understood that it would have to be financially feasible for the Tribe to do the boring based on the amount of the grant provided.
2. Proper erosion control measures must be used throughout the length of the project wherever necessary to protect silt and soil from running into the BVW. If trenching is taking place, the trench must be filled in at the end of every workday.
3. Notification to the ACC must be provided at least 48 hours prior to any work beginning on the project.

Motion passed unanimously.

Our next ACC meeting will be April 23, 2024, at 4 PM. Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed.

approved ST