

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY WETLANDS BOARD
FEBRUARY 8, 2022
MINUTES

Due to the Northumberland County Emergency Ordinance addressing Continuity of Government during the Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic, the Northumberland County Wetlands Board held an in person and telephonic public hearing on February 8, 2022 in the Sheriff's Office in Heathsville, Virginia at 7:00 PM:

Present

Absent

Harry Towne – Chairman
George Rew – Vice-Chairman
Albert Fisher
Robert Vanlandingham

Lewis Howard

Harry Towne, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

No visitors were present online.

On a motion by George Rew, seconded by Robert Vanlandingham, the minutes of the December 14, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Application No. 22-0128

Daniel and Christine O'Shea – to construct a 40'x5' community pier and a 12'x40' boat ramp along the shoreline of Prentice Creek and Tax Map Parcel #51-B(1)-5 on Prentice Point Drive in Prentice Point Subdivision.

Odis Cockrell, agent, was present.

Harry Towne noted that this appears to be straight forward.

Lois and Charles Kramb expressed concerns with using the term "community" boat ramp as they were concerned that those outside the subdivision would try to use it.

Daniel O'Shea said there is a deeded easement for the Prentice Point Community. He said the last thing he wanted was those outside the community using the ramp. He said that if the project is approved that he would put up a sign. He stated that it is available for use today. "I'm just making it more operable." He noted that the pier is private and is not located on the easement. He said it is a 30-house subdivision and that he expected low traffic. He stated that the ramp is for the Prentice Point Community only. "If the Board wants, I will put a sign up on that easement to address any concerns. The dock is not on the easement but on private property."

Morris Willingham, adjacent property owner, said the way it is explained sounds very agreeable.

Albert Fisher said this is a good way. “A wise idea to put up sign which eliminates any question.”

Robert Vanlandingham asked if the pier could be used by other property owners.

Daniel O’Shea said he had no problems with his neighbors using the dock to tie up their boat. “If a sign is needed to say community ramp-private pier, I can do that.”

Harry Towne stated that the sign would be up to Mr. O’Shea.

Charles Kramb stated that he agreed with what has been proposed.

Albert Fisher made a motion to approve the application as submitted. George Rew seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Application No. 22-0001

David and Michelle Quirin – to install 260 linear feet of riprap revetment along the shoreline of Lawrence Cove and 159 Otter Cove Lane.

Joseph Scott, agent, said the Quirins property has been experiencing erosion with falling trees. He said the old bulkhead on site is useless. “They want to install rock where needed. Their house is sitting on a point with a high bank. It is shaded around the shoreline with a quick drop off which is not good for a living shoreline. A lot of damage on the bank is up to three feet. They can’t grade, don’t want to take trees out and the house is right there. It’s either put down stone or let it wash.”

Harry Towne noted that this is a good project.

Albert Fisher stated that they don’t have room for living shoreline.

Jeff Madden asked how tall is the bank at its highest point.

Joseph Scott said approximately ten feet.

Jeff Madden said, “So the reasons for not using a living shoreline is the height of the bank, the shaded shoreline and that the depth of the water falls off quickly.”

Joseph Scott said that is correct and requested a 3-year permit.

After consideration, Robert Vanlandingham made a motion to approve the application as submitted. Albert Fisher seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Other Business

The Board then heard a request to extend permit (VMRC #16-0177) for White Sands Harbour POA in order to complete the project. The letter from the agent stated that a considerable amount of progress has been made in the construction. After consideration, Robert Vanlandingham made a motion to approve the request to extend the permit for three years. George Rew seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion by Robert Vanlandingham, seconded by George Rew, the meeting was adjourned.

