

Dear Neighbor,

In our efforts to keep you informed of progress related to the SBPF revetment proposal, here's an important update.

- The next in the series of Con Com hearings is scheduled for 4 pm Wednesday, September 11. Dr. Michael Bruno, a renowned international expert on coastal and ocean dynamics, will present his assessment of SBPF's proposed revetment to protect Sconset Bluff and Baxter Road. Dr. Bruno is Dean of the School of Science and Engineering at the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey and has been advising us on our project design. We are hopeful that as the hearings on our project draw to a close that Dr. Bruno's testimony will help satisfy commissioners that our project is designed to top standards, that it will be effective in protecting the bluff from erosion, and that it will not harm others. A press release on Dr. Bruno is attached.
- At the last hearing session on August 28 a series of improvements to the project design were presented and many questions from the Con Com and from project opponents were addressed. Some questions remained and a few new ones were raised. We are happy to report that many supporters of our project spoke strongly and persuasively during the public comment portion of the meeting, offsetting the barrage of opponents' comments from the previous session. We should have some more supporters prepared to speak, if appropriate, this coming Wednesday at Public Safety Building, 4 Fairgrounds Road. Please attend and speak in support if you are able.
- Also, letters of support to the Conservation Commission are critical. Please consider submitting one. We can provide you with background and talking points. Just let us know. Support letters should be emailed to Jeff Carlson, the Commission's Natural Resource Officer, at: jcarlson@nantucket-ma.gov.
- We are optimistic that this session will complete the responses to all technical issues. It is not expected that the hearing process will be formally closed, however. At the end of this session, and into the next one (probably a week or two later), we hope to engage the commissioners in a meaningful dialog aimed at defining a list of so-called "conditions" under which a permit might be issued. Our hope is that a list of conditions can be mutually agreed upon. If that is not possible, we will probably exercise our right to appeal the local Con Com decision to the state.
- In the meantime, we have engaged with the Town on the idea of installing a "geotube" along 550 feet at the base of the bluff where the road is most threatened and possibly in front of a few of the most threatened homes. We have made clear to Town officials that

SBPF will focus its permitting efforts on the revetment plan and that if the temporary geotube is to be proposed and installed, it must be something that the Town itself leads. If it chooses to do so, we plan to be supportive.

- Finally, we are awaiting word on whether opponents of the project have filed any warrant articles for the upcoming November 4 Special Town Meeting. If they have, we may need to mount an effort to urge votes to turn it down.

Sincerely,

Josh Posner, joshposner@comcast.net

Kermit Roosevelt, kroosevelt@mac.com

Helmut Weymar, helmut@weymars.com