



STATE OF MAINE
Department of Environmental Protection

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

David P. Littell
COMMISSIONER

March, 2010

Friends of Maine Seabird Islands
PO Box 232
Rockport, ME 04856

RE: Minor Revision Application, Rockland, #L-20386-26-M-M

Dear Mr. Goettel:

Please find enclosed a signed copy of your Department of Environmental Protection land use permit. You will note that the permit includes a description of your project, findings of fact that relate to the approval criteria the Department used in evaluating your project, and conditions that are based on those findings and the particulars of your project. Please take several moments to read your permit carefully, paying particular attention to the conditions of the approval. The Department reviews every application thoroughly and strives to formulate reasonable conditions of approval within the context of the Department's environmental laws. You will also find attached some materials that describe the Department's appeal procedures for your information.

If you have any questions about the permit or thoughts on how the Department processed this application please get in touch with me directly. I can be reached at 207-287-8899 or at Eric.Ham@maine.gov.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric Ham".

Eric Ham, Project Manager
Division of Land Resource Regulation
Bureau of Land & Water Quality

pc: File



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

FRIENDS OF MAINE SEABIRD ISLANDS) SITE LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT ACT
Rockland, Knox County)
BUILDING USE CHANGE) MINOR REVISION
*# L-20386-26-M-M) FINDINGS OF FACT AND ORDER
(*Corrected Order)

Pursuant to the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 481 et seq., the Department of Environmental Protection has considered the application of FRIENDS OF MAINE SEABIRD ISLANDS with the supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

- A. History: In Department Order *#L-20386-26-A-N, dated October 24, 2000, the Department approved the development of an operations center for Bracebridge Corporation that includes a 78,000 square foot office building, daycare center, boathouse, open-air pavilion, and boardwalk. The development is located adjacent to Ocean St. and Water St. in the Town of Rockland.
- B. Summary: The applicant proposes to change the use of the daycare center to the Maine Coastal Islands Discovery Center.
- C. Current Use of Site: The building was operated as a day care center for the Bracebridge facility.

2. FINDING:

The proposed project is a minor change and will not significantly affect any issues identified during previous Department reviews of the project site.

Based on its review of the application, the Department finds the requested minor revision to be in accordance with all relevant Departmental standards. All other findings of fact, conclusions and conditions remain as approved in Department Order *#L-20386-26-A-N and subsequent orders.

BASED on the above findings of fact, and subject to the conditions listed below, the Department makes the following conclusions pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A. Sections 481 et seq.:

- A. The applicant has provided adequate evidence of financial capacity and technical ability to develop the project in a manner consistent with state environmental standards.
- B. The applicant has made adequate provision for fitting the development harmoniously into the existing natural environment and the development will not adversely affect existing uses, scenic character, air quality, water quality or other natural resources in the municipality or in neighboring municipalities.
- C. The proposed development will be built on soil types which are suitable to the nature of the undertaking and will not cause unreasonable erosion of soil or sediment nor inhibit the natural transfer of soil.
- D. The proposed development meets the standards for storm water management in Section 420-D and the standard for erosion and sedimentation control in Section 420-C.
- E. The proposed development will not pose an unreasonable risk that a discharge to a significant groundwater aquifer will occur.
- F. The applicant has made adequate provision of utilities, including water supplies, sewerage facilities, solid waste disposal and roadways required for the development and the development will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on the existing or proposed utilities and roadways in the municipality or area served by those services.
- G. The activity will not unreasonably cause or increase the flooding of the alteration area or adjacent properties nor create an unreasonable flood hazard to any structure.

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the application of FRIENDS OF MAINE SEABIRD ISLANDS to revise the Site License SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS and all applicable standards and regulations:

1. The Standard Conditions of Approval, a copy attached.
2. In addition to any specific erosion control measures described in this or previous orders, the applicant shall take all necessary actions to ensure that its activities or those of its agents do not result in noticeable erosion of soils or fugitive dust emissions on the site during the construction and operation of the project covered by this approval.
3. Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision, or part thereof, of this License shall not affect the remainder of the provision or any other provisions. This License shall be construed and enforced in all respects as if such invalid or unenforceable provision or part thereof had been omitted.

4. All other Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Conditions remain as approved in Department Order *#L-20386-26-A-N, and subsequent orders, and are incorporated herein.

THIS APPROVAL DOES NOT CONSTITUTE OR SUBSTITUTE FOR ANY OTHER REQUIRED STATE, FEDERAL OR LOCAL APPROVALS NOR DOES IT VERIFY COMPLIANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SHORELAND ZONING ORDINANCES.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
CORRECTED THE ORDER DATED March 4, 2010. The effective and expiration dates remain the same as in the original order.

PLEASE NOTE THE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES...

*eh/l#20386mm/ats#71470

**DEP SITE LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT (SITE) STANDARD CONDITIONS
STRICT CONFORMANCE WITH THE STANDARD AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF THIS
APPROVAL IS NECESSARY FOR THE PROJECT TO MEET THE STATUTORY CRITERIA FOR
APPROVAL.**

1. This approval is dependent upon and limited to the proposals and plans contained in the application and supporting documents submitted and affirmed to by the applicant. Any variation from the plans, proposals and supporting documents is subject to the review and approval of the Board prior to implementation. Further subdivision of proposed lots by the applicant or future owners is specifically prohibited, without prior approval by the Board of Environmental Protection, and the applicant shall include deed restrictions to this effect.
2. The applicant shall secure and comply with all applicable Federal, State and local licenses, permits, authorizations, conditions, agreements, and orders, prior to or during construction and operation as appropriate.
3. The applicant shall submit all reports and information requested by the Board or Department demonstrating that the applicant has complied or will comply with all conditions of this approval. All preconstruction terms and conditions must be met before construction begins.
4. Advertising relating to matters included in this application shall refer to this approval only if it notes that the approval has been granted WITH CONDITIONS, and indicates where copies of those conditions may be obtained.
5. Unless otherwise provided in this approval, the applicant shall not sell, lease, assign or otherwise transfer the development or any portion thereof without prior written approval of the Board where the purpose or consequence of the transfer is to transfer any of the obligations of the developer as incorporated in this approval. Such approval shall be granted only if the applicant or transferee demonstrates to the Board that the transferee has the technical capacity and financial ability to comply with conditions of this approval and the proposals and plans contained in the application and supporting documents submitted by the applicant.
6. If the construction or operation of the activity is not begun within two years, this approval shall lapse and the applicant shall reapply to the Board for a new approval. The applicant may not begin construction or operation of the development until a new approval is granted. Reapplications for approval shall state the reasons why the development was not begun within two years from the granting of the initial approval and the reasons why the applicant will be able to begin the activity within two years from the granting of a new approval, if granted. Reapplications for approval may include information submitted in the initial application by reference.
7. If the approved development is not completed within five years from the date of the granting of approval, the Board may reexamine its approval and impose additional terms or conditions or prescribe other necessary corrective action to respond to significant changes in circumstances which may have occurred during the five-year period.
8. A copy of this approval must be included in or attached to all contract bid specifications for the development.
9. Work done by a contractor pursuant to this approval shall not begin before the contractor has been shown by the developer a copy of this approval.



DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision

Dated: May 2004

Contact: (207) 287-2811

SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection (Board); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with consulting statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help aggrieved persons with understanding their rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

DEP's General Laws, 38 M.R.S.A. § 341-D (4), and its Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters (Chapter 2), 06-096 CMR 2.24 (April 1, 2003).

HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written notice of appeal within 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days will be rejected.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner and the applicant a copy of the documents. All the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

WHAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

The materials constituting an appeal must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status.* Standing to maintain an appeal requires the appellant to show they are particularly injured by the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.

5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.

6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.

7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence as part of an appeal only when the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or show that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2, Section 24(B) (5)

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license file is public information made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.

2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.

3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* An applicant proceeding with a project pending the outcome of an appeal runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will formally acknowledge initiation of the appeals procedure, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal, within 15 days of receiving a timely filing. The notice of appeal, all materials accepted by the Board Chair as additional evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members along with a briefing and recommendation from DEP staff. Parties filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the final date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision. The Board will notify parties to an appeal and interested persons of its decision.

II APPEALS TO MAINE SUPERIOR COURT

Maine law allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2.26; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & MRCivP 80C. Parties to the licensing decision must file a petition for review within 30 days after receipt of notice of the Commissioner's written decision. A petition for review by any other person aggrieved must be filed within 40-days from the date the written decision is rendered. The laws cited in this paragraph and other legal procedures govern the contents and processing of a Superior Court appeal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, contact the DEP's Director of Procedures and Enforcement at (207) 287-2811.

Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.
