



Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
Thursday, March 14th, 2024, at 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chairman P. Bassermann at 7:00 pm

ROLL CALL: Chairman Peter Bassermann, Commissioners David Goclowski, Matthew Ormrod, Melissa Papantones, Melissa Funaro, Suzanne Botta. Also present: Inland Wetland Staff J. Frederick and K. Blanchette

1) **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

- a) February 22nd, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes- Commissioner M. Papantones made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner D. Goclowski seconded. Roll Call-
D. Goclowski-aye
S. Botta-aye
M. Ormrod-aye
P. Bassermann-aye
M. Funaro-abstained.
M. Papantones-aye
Motion carried.

2) **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- a) IW#24.01.02 | 38 Howard Ave | pervious patio and landscape retaining walls and shed.
 - i) NO DISCUSSION, CONTINUED to March 28th, 2024.

3) **APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:**

- a) IW#24.02.01 | 380 Shore Drive | 1 story art studio with support spaces and breakfast nook-Matt Bruton, PE-at last meeting it was requested that stormwater management be addressed. The plan calls for an addition of 30 sq feet of impervious surface from current site condition. Revised plan incorporates 2 precast dry wells at the corner of the building to manage stormwater. He rechecked the area of disturbance calculations and it is a larger area than was initially stated. Additional money (\$16) is owed for the application which will be paid. Commission requested that the E and S plan with narrative be indicated on the plans. Mr. Bruton stated he will revise the plan to add that and submit it prior to the next meeting.

4) **ENFORCEMENT:**

- a) Notice of Violation | 142 Chestnut Street | removal of vegetation and earthwork without a permit to conduct regulated activities-IW Agent J. Frederick-last meeting commission requested a soils report/delineation and hydrology report, as well as soil testing to determine what the fill material consisted of. Per property owner, the soil scientist has been out to the site, but no report has been generated yet. Soil testing report showed that fill soils were those typical of the Connecticut landscape and while high in Iron and Manganese, do not prove detrimental to the surrounding waters.

Levels in the water samples were within normal ranges on site but had higher concentrations of iron/manganese in the water samples that came from water that flowed ON to the site as opposed to the levels of the water flowing off the site. The Soils report should be completed by the April 11 meeting. The Commission requested that the soil scientist be present at the meeting.

- b) Notice of Violation | 72 Parish Farm & 10 High Meadow Rd | regulated activity without a permit
 - i) Status update-tabled pending review of the application
- c) Notice of Violation | 38 Howard Ave | retaining wall & associated activities
 - i) TABLED to March 28th, 2024.
- d) Consider whether to issue cease and correct orders relative to Regulated Activity conducted without a permit at 34 Howard Ave and 38 Howard Ave (activity subject to notice of violation sent on April 24th, 2023)
 - i) TABLED to March 28th, 2024.

5) OTHER BUSINESS:

- a) 1151 West Main Street | IW#19.11.01 | bank, grocery store & associated site improvements
 - i) mitigation area – request to modify plan-Matt Bruton, PE- indicated that he was not part of the original project, but he has picked up the project. The original wetland creation plan was not 100% successful. There was an area that failed due to the lack of hydrology to support the wetland creation area. Now proposing that a portion of the intended creation area be converted to an upland area, with plantings that can tolerate being dry. Commission questioned whether or not they considered any other alternatives. Mr. Bruton stated that there are concerns about digging deeper to access the ground water due to concerns regarding contamination, and the likelihood of failure of the system again. If they planted this area of the created wetland area as an upland area, there will be a greater chance of success. Revised plan calls for planting 29 trees and 49 shrubs that were recommended by Matthew Davison, soil scientist. The Commission requested a written response to the questions emailed by IW Agent J. Frederick for the April 11th meeting.
- b) 8 Sawmill Rd | IW#20.12.01 | new home
 - i) Permit compliance and request to remove fallen trees in deed restriction area-IW Agent J. Frederick indicated that the property owners are wanting to begin work. Owner requested that they be allowed to remove 2 fallen trees in the deed restricted area due to unsightliness. The Commission discussed the benefit of the felled trees in the conservation area and told them that if they would like they can cut the tree into pieces and let them lie on the ground, but that the trees should remain where they fall. IW Agent J. Frederick also noted that she was advised that the contractor hired to clear the site drove his equipment into the deed restricted area. He was advised that he needs to remove the equipment. The tracks that were left by the equipment need to be repaired by hand to the original state. Deed restriction language has not yet been filed for the site. Deed restriction language needs to be drafted and approved by the IW staff prior to construction.

- c) Regulation revision to address 2023 changes to the Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual and Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion & Sediment Control – discuss timing and process-Need to make changes to the regulations in order to be in compliance with the 2023 changes to the manual. Stormwater guidelines go into effect in March, however there is a grace period before implementation needs to be adopted. Will look at revisions at the April 25th meeting.

6) **APPLICATIONS FOR RECEIPT:**

- a) IW#24.02.02 | 1-17 Beacon Hill Road and Beacon Hill Road (formerly part of property known as 83 Rose Hill Rd) | New Active Adult Residential Community-IW Agent J. Frederick advised the commission that the size and scope of the project is generally one which warrants a public hearing, Commission discussed site walk and peer review may also be applicable. At the next meeting, will review the application and determine the next steps.

- b) IW#24.03.01 | 72 Parish Farm Road & 10 High Meadow Road | Grading and New Barn-upon brief overview of the site plans, it was determined that the proposed plans were in the scope of an agent approval. Applicant to add stormwater management from roof runoff. If the agent feels that once stormwater measures are added to the plan that it needs further review, it will be brought back to the commission.

7) **AGENT APPROVALS:** none currently

8) **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

9) **ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Botta made a motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm. Commissioner Gocłowski seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Katy Blanchette