



Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM

This meeting was held remotely, via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

ROLL CALL: Chairman P. Bassermann, Commissioners S. Botta, C. Begemann, M. Funaro, D. Gocłowski, M. Ormrod Also present IW Staff J. Frederick and K. Blanchette

1) **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

- a) October 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes-Commissioner C. Begemann made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12. Seconded by D. Gocłowski. Commissioner S. Botta discussed making revisions to the minutes to include the discussion regarding time frames for the application/public hearing re: 38 Howard Avenue. Motion to approve was withdrawn and item continued to the December meeting.

2) **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- a) IW#23.07.02 | 38 Howard Ave | Retaining wall construction and associated activities
 - i) Includes activities proposed on 34 Howard Ave-authorization was still not obtained from the property owners on 34 Howard Ave. Hearing was open and continued to December 14, 2023 meeting.

3) **APPLICATIONS FOR RECEIPT:**

- a) IW#23.10.03 | 275 Northford Rd | deck replacement with two smaller decks (mostly within same footprint)-IW Agent J. Frederick gave an overview on the project. Involves removing an existing deck and replacing with 2 smaller decks. Deck is on a steep slope that contains wetlands at the base. Building department is currently awaiting structural plans for the deck as they are currently unclear. Commission requests information on the substrate that posts will be driven into and how holes will be dug. Andrew Narcisco, Property owner, indicated that the slope is too steep there and that all the posts will be hand dug and no machines will be going back there. Commission also requested an erosion control plan.
- b) IW#23.10.04 | 37 Brainerd Rd | new home construction-3 family dwelling-lot was previously approved for the creation of 2 lots, each with a single family homes. New plan is for a single, 3-family dwelling. Commission requested that the site plans from previous approval be included with current plan set to be able to review the significance of grading/drainage changes.

4) APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:

- a) BRIW#23.08.02 | 45-81 Short Rocks Road | construct 30' pole bridge across Pisgah Brook below supply ponds dam and rehab 70' stream bank to prevent further erosion and complete trail improvements-looking to complete in December/January when ground is frozen or during the dry season. Commissioner S. Botta makes a motion to approve the application with the conditions laid out in the staff report with the added conditions that the permit only pertains to the stream bank stabilization, any additional work be brought back to the commission for review; that they will provide monitoring reports for 5 years from completion to check for success of work and long-term stability; and work is to be completed in the dry season or when the ground is frozen. Commissioner M. Funaro seconds. Roll Call Vote:

C. Begemann-aye
M. Ormrod-aye
D. Goclowski-aye
S. Botta-aye
M. Funaro-aye
P. Bassermann-aye
Motion carries unanimously.

- b) IW#23.06.06 | 35-37 Harrison Ave | 6 unit townhouse and associated site improvements (located to rear of existing building containing two living units)-plans revised to a 3 unit townhouse building-Chuck Mandel, agent for the property owner/applicant, discussed the changes to the plan, including relocating the storm water system and scaling down the size of the building from 6 units to 3, which also lowered the parking requirements. Commissioner Ormrod made a motion to approve the applications with the conditions laid out in the staff report dated for the meeting of 11/9/2023, with the addition that Town Engineer comments be addressed to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer and/or Inland Wetland Agent and that a landscape plan be completed by a soil and or wetland scientist and approved the IW Agent. Chairman Bassermann Seconds. Roll Call Vote:

C. Begemann-aye
M. Ormrod-aye
D. Goclowski-aye
S. Botta-abstains
M. Funaro-aye
P. Bassermann-aye
Motion carries 5-0-1.

- c) IW#23.09.01 | 329 East Main Street (aka 325 East Main St) | mixed use residential development –revised erosion control and plan received this afternoon. No paper copies received yet. Applicant granted a continuance to December 14 to give time to review the newly submitted information.
- d) IW#23.10.01 | 11 Laurel Hill Rd | construction of new single family residence -IW Agent J. Frederick met with Matt Davison, soil scientist, and Engineer Jim Pretti at the site to view current conditions. Wetland area is currently very abundantly vegetated with native wetland plants. It appears to be a very healthy and thriving wetland environment. Soil scientist recommended previous planting plan not be executed, as it would cause disturbance to the already thriving wetland area, and

potentially cause more detriment than benefit. Commissioner C. Begemann makes a motion to approve the application with the conditions set forth in the staff report dated for the meeting on 11/9/2023, with the added condition that the conservation deed restricted area be marked at least every 50 feet with conservation signage.

Commissioner Botta Seconds. Roll Call Vote:

C. Begemann-aye

M. Ormrod-aye

D. Goclowski-aye

S. Botta-aye

M. Funaro-aye

P. Bassermann-aye

Motion carries unanimously

- e) IW#23.10.02 | 35 Beechwood Rd | patio, hot tub, outdoor-Last meeting, commission requested a wetland delineation and A2 survey be done. Homeowner reached out to Criscuolo Engineering who gave a timeframe of 16 weeks for a survey. IW Agent J. Frederick suggested to the commission possibly waiving that requirement due to the extended timeframe, and the fact that the plan was created based on a foundation as built survey. In lieu of a survey, the commission determined it was appropriate to add the new wetland flagging to the existing plan. Site plan also needs to show shed that is being replaced, as well as planting plan to help mitigate stormwater from impervious areas. Additional info needed regarding artificial turf/putting green if to remain, owner represented that they would likely be removed from the scope of work. Continued to December 14, 2023 meeting.

5) ENFORCEMENT:

- a) Notice of Violation | 38 Howard Ave | retaining wall & associated activities-no discussion-pending application, cont. to Dec. 14th meeting
- b) Notice of Violation & CC#22.06.01 | 20 Huntington Drive | regulated activities without a permit
 - i) Site status update-some plantings have been installed. Slope has been seeded with grass seed. Signs were installed however they were not installed on appropriate posts. Homeowner said that would be completed Saturday and survey could be ready early December. Item was continued to December 14th meeting. Commission strongly encouraged homeowner to attend to review next steps.
- c) Notice of Violation | 72 Parish Farm | regulated activity without a permit
 - i) TABLE to Dec. 14th meeting
- d) CC#22.12.01 | 21 Brainerd Road | Construction without permits
 - i) Continued to Dec. 14th meeting
- e) CC#23.09.01 | 21 Brainerd Road | Construction without permits
 - i) Continuance of just cause hearing- Building and fire violations are still pending in the courts. Have not been able to make contact with owner. Have requested a meeting with homeowner and all departments and will have a translator available to assist in communications, however nothing has been scheduled as of yet.

6) OTHER BUSINESS:

- a) 250 North Main | IW#17.07.05 | proposed retail development & associated site improvements
 - i) Review of fifth year monitoring report-Final year of monitoring report was received and reviewed. Some areas of the site have adequate survivability, while other areas do not. Some of planted vegetation died, while others were damaged during mowing. However, it was noted that a lot of native species also began volunteering at the site. Monitoring to continue for an additional 2 years to have the success measure be a decrease in invasives and an increase of native species to meet survivability.
- b) 1151 West Main Street | IW#19.11.01 | bank, grocery store & associated site improvements
 - i) Mitigation status-No update received. IW Agent J. Frederick will send a letter indicating that they need to submit materials a week prior to the next meeting for review at the Dec. 14th meeting, identify that failure to submit materials and attend the meeting to discuss will likely result in the Commission pursuing enforcement action for permit noncompliance.
- c) 2024 Meeting Schedule-Commission discussed meeting schedule options. Commission determined that 2 meetings per month (on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month) with the option to cancel the second meeting if there is not adequate business to discuss at the second meeting of the month. Commission requested staff draft up meeting policy that would help streamline meetings.

7) **CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a) CACIWC Annual Meeting Nov. 11th
- 8) **ADJOURNMENT:** Commissioner Botta made a motion to adjourn at 10:52 pm. Commission Goclowski Seconds. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katy Blanchette
Inland Wetlands Associate