

MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Commission
August 11, 2022 6:30 PM
Waterford Town Hall

Members Present: Rich Muckle, Wade Thomas
Members Absent: Matthew Keatley, Dave Lersch, Talivadis Maidelis,
Geneva Renegar
Alternates Present: Bud Bray, Ivy Plis
Staff Present: Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner
Leanne Santos, Recording Secretary

2022 AUG 16 PM 2:01

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
AUG 16 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

R. Muckle called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. B. Bray was seated for M. Keatley, I. Plis was seated for G. Renegar.

2. APPROVAL OF THE July 28, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Motion made by W. Thomas, second by B. Bray to approve the July 28, 2022 meeting minutes.

Vote: 4-0-0

3. APPLICATION REVIEW

C-22-6, Gardiner Woods Road - Drainage Upgrade, Town of Waterford Dept. of Public Works, Owner/Applicant, Daniel Matheson, Agent.

Draft permit reviewed and accepted.

Motion: Motion made by W. Thomas, second by I. Plis to accept the draft permit as written.

Vote: 4-0-0

C-22-7, 48 Great Neck Road – Condominium Development, Adam Builders LLC, Owner & Applicant, Joe Wren PE, (Indigo Land Design), Agent

Joe Wren, (Indigo Land Design, LLC), J. Cowen, (Cowen EcoDesign, LLC) and Skip Adams were present for the application. J. Wren presented two wetland crossing alternatives, labeled ALT A and ALT B. ALT A includes one concrete span and ALT B two spans. J. Wren reviewed the reasoning for the 2 spans during design, noting the initial plan was to cross the wetland over the existing farm road, which included spanning the existing culvert and spanning the high flow channel. With additional survey details on the proposed road alignment, the roadway is north of the old farm crossing, only one culvert span is required over the channel and the wetland hydrology in the upstream wetland area is maintained. ALT A includes a permanent wetland disturbance of 454 square feet and a temporary wetland disturbance of 1460 square feet, while ALT B includes a permanent wetland disturbance of 225 square feet and a temporary wetland disturbance of 1571 square feet. J. Wren stated that ALT A is the preferred option for the following reasons:

- 1) the construction duration of installation of the crossing will be reduced,
- 2) the amount of excavation for footings and associated dewatering is reduced,
- 3) temporary wetland disturbance is decreased, permanent wetland impact is greater by 229 square feet but the existing farm road is maintained along with the upstream wetland hydrology,

4) temporary impacts will be restored, invasive species removed from the farm road and stormwater run-off treated.

J. Cowen described the proposed culvert crossing is over a well-defined channel with a concentrated flow and adjacent banks contain boulders, providing more structural strength in the area of the footings. He stated the old culvert upstream of the span drops off into the channel and flow will not be affected by the proposed span. He stated the proposed design protects the wetland functions.

The commission members agreed that the final design can proceed with Alternate A. J. Wren noted that they are still working on plan details and responses to staff review comments for next meeting.

4. NEW APPLICATIONS

C-22-8, 15R Trumbull Road, Temporary coffer dam/fish way repair, Town of Waterford Recreation & Parks Commission, Owner, Brian Flaherty, Applicant

The commission determined the application falls under section 4.2a of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.

Motion: Motion made by B. Bray, second by I. Plis that the activity is permitted under Section 4.2a of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.

Vote: 4-0-0

C-22-9, 21 Gurley Road, Commercial Office and Warehouse Complex, Stone Ridge R E, LLC, Owner & Applicant, CLA Engineers, Agent

B. Russo, soil scientist with CLA Engineers, presented an overview of the project. He stated past land use included sand and gravel excavation in a portion of the site where wetland 3 is located. A house and farm outbuildings were located on the eastern portion of the property.

B. Russo described the on-site wetlands. Wetland 1 is a forested riparian corridor with a perennial stream and contains a man-made pond. Run-off from I-95 discharges to the stream. Wetland 3 is a previously excavated area supporting wetland shrub and sapling growth. Wetland 2 is a forested depression with water-stained leaves indicating seasonal ponding. Wood frog egg masses were observed however the ponding dries out too soon and tadpoles did not survive. Wetland 4 and 5 located in the eastern end of the property is forested and contains a man-made pond and a vernal pool with salamander and wood frog breeding. A 50 ft. wetland vegetative buffer is preserved adjacent to wetland boundaries. B. Russo explained low impact development practices are included to treat stormwater run-off and promote infiltration where permeable soils are located. He noted all the stormwater basins are over-sized to treat the water quality volume and accommodate 2 inches of run-off without any discharge. The proposal involves no direct impact to wetlands.

The Commission received the application as complete.

5. VIOLATIONS

1122, 1124 Hartford Turnpike: Unauthorized fill, grading & deposition of materials adjacent to inland wetlands. Notice of Violation issued May 26, 2022 – Restoration Plan comments issued July 18, 2022.

Staff reviewed the August 1, 2022 notice of restoration plan approval with conditions. She has spoken with the owner and the engineer on the timeframe for completion.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Staff reviewed a request to conduct manual removal of branches and leaves from a dry pond at 90 Braman Road.

Motion: Motion made by W. Thomas, second by I. Plis that the activity is permitted under Section 4.1.d. of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses regulations.

Vote: 4-0-0

Staff reviewed a request from the property owner at 10 Donna Street to conduct channel clearing, stone embankment reconstruction and channel lining.

The Commission determined the proposed channel work involves regulated activities and a permit application is required.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion to adjourn made by W. Thomas, second by I. Plis to adjourn at 8:00 pm.

Vote: 4-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,



Leanne Santos
Recording Secretary