

MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Commission
Waterford Town Hall

November 17, 2011
7:00 PM

Members Present: Henry Curtis, Harold Hansen, Nancy Hicks, Gary Johnson, David Lersch, and Jeff Sims.
Members Absent: Richard Muckle [notified absence]
Alternates Present: Wade Thomas (2 vacancies)
Alternates Absent:
Staff Present: Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner
Katrina Kotfer, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. W. Thomas was appointed to sit for R. Muckle.

2. APPROVAL OF THE October 27, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Motion made by N. Hicks, seconded by J. Sims, to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2011 meeting with the change in the second paragraph of section 3 of the word lightening to lightning.

VOTE: 6-0-1: [W. Thomas abstained]

3. APPLICATION REVIEWS

#2011-024 – 12 Memory Lane: Shed, Applicant & Owner – Robert & Jill Patten. (Action Date 11/24/11, Last Meeting Date 11/17/2011)

MOTION: Motion made by D. Lersch, seconded by J. Sims, to approve the draft as written with the addition to number 2 of authorized activities of the wording “75 feet” to describe the non-encroachment line.

VOTE: 7-0-0

4. NEW APPLICATIONS

#C-11-1 14 Memory Lane: Clearing & Lawn Extension in Designated Non-Encroachment Area, Applicant & Owner - Ron & Leanne Welch.

Ron Welch presented the application to the Commission, explaining that in 2003 he had installed a fence to keep wildlife out of his yard to protect his young children. He stated that he had thought the fence was installed along the non-encroachment line. In 2007 he had a pool installed and the fill that was excavated from the pool area was spread onto his yard inside the fence. He requested the Commission consider allowing him to keep the fence and yard limit in its current location.

M. FitzGerald stated that she measured and mapped the location of the fenceline and lawn extent from the as-built plan. She stated that the fence extends 30 feet into the 75 ft non-encroachment area at the southeast corner of the lot. The wooded land between the fenceline and wetland is healthy and free of any debris. She stated she did not observe adverse impacts to the wetlands.

H. Curtis stated that the shed approved on the neighboring property by the Commission is closer to the wetland than the fence. D. Lersch stated that the fence and yard improvement would be consistent with those improvements approved on the adjacent property at 12 Memory Lane.

MOTION: Motion made by J. Sims, seconded by D. Lersch, to have staff prepare a draft permit approval for application C-11-1 permitting the fence and lawn extension into the designated wetland non-encroachment area with the stipulation that no application of fertilizers, pesticides or insecticides is permitted within the 75 ft. wetland non-encroachment area.

VOTE: 7-0-0

#C-11-2 305 Great Neck Road: Expansion & Site Development Improvements at the Eugene O'Neil Theater Complex; Preston Whiteway - Agent, Town of Waterford - Owner, LRC Group – Robert P. Pryor, PE, LS - Agent.

The Commission accepted the application.

5. VIOLATIONS

14 Memory Lane: Unauthorized Clearing & Lawn Extension in Designated Non-Encroachment Area, Notice Letter issued November 4, 2011.

The Commission noted that an after the fact application has been submitted for the activity in the non-encroachment area and the violation will be resolved when a permit is approved.

28 Butlertown Road: Abatement Order: August 17, 2010. Amended Abatement Order-12/8/10. Wetland Restoration Plan to be completed by May 31, 2011.

The Commission reviewed the drafted Order by Stipulation dated November 8, 2011. M. FitzGerald explained that the applicant can request modifications to the approved restoration plan and the Commission may grant or deny any modifications.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Draft Budget FY 2012-13

MOTION: Motion made by J. Sims, seconded by N. Hicks, to approve the final draft budget as prepared.

VOTE: 7-0-0

Annual Report FY 2011-12

MOTION: Motion made by D. Lersch, seconded by J. Sims, to approve the final draft budget as prepared.

VOTE: 7-0-0

22 Susan Terrace – Proposed Garage: Determination of permit requirements

M. FitzGerald reviewed a building permit application for a garage at 22 Susan Terrace, the limits of clearing and disturbance adjacent to inland wetlands and watercourses, and photographs of the adjacent wooded slopes. The Commission directed staff to have the property owner submit an application for an inland wetlands and watercourse permit due to the size of the structure and the extent of proposed activity within the upland review area.

Referral from the City of New London – Re: 439, 441 & 449 Ocean Avenue

The Commission reviewed the comments forwarded by M. FitzGerald to the City of New London Conservation Commission.

Permit #00-05 41 Niantic River Road – Request for 4-year Permit Extension.

The Commission reviewed a request for a 4 year permit extension for permit#00-05 submitted by Sophia Giotis, dated September 25, 2011. M. FitzGerald noted that Public Act 11-5 allows permits that have not expired by May 9, 2011 to be extended up to a maximum of 14 years.

MOTION: Motion made by D. Lersch, seconded by H. Hanson, to grant a 4-year extension of permit #00-05 with a new expiration date of October 25, 2015. The letter extending the permit is to indicate that this is the final extension that is allowed.

VOTE: 7-0-0

7. CONSERVATION COMMISSION TASKS

No discussion

8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Commission reviewed the correspondence.

9. PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION: Motion made by J. Sims, seconded by H. Curtis, to pay the \$77.50 bill from The Day.

VOTE: 7-0-0

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by J. Sims, seconded by N. Hicks, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm.

VOTE: 7-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Kotfer
Recording Secretary