

MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Commission
Waterford Town Hall

September 22, 2011
7:00 PM

Members Present: Henry Curtis, Harold Hansen, Nancy Hicks, David Lersch, Richard Muckle, and Jeff Sims.
Members Absent: Gary Johnson (notified absence)
Alternates Present: Wade Thomas, (2 vacancies)
Alternates Absent: None
Staff Present: Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner
Katrina Kotfer, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Acting Chairman Sims called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. W. Thomas was appointed to sit for G. Johnson.

2. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Motion made by H. Curtis, seconded by R. Muckle, to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2011 meeting.

VOTE: 5-0-2 (D. Lersch and W. Thomas)

3. APPLICATION REVIEWS

#2011-022– 207 (211) Waterford Parkway North: Sight Line Maintenance, Applicant – Sonalysts, Inc., Owner – David Piccolo, Agent – Dennis Harlow.

M. FitzGerald reported that she had received an email from D. Harlow requesting that the application be tabled so the applicant can review the draft permit. This item was tabled.

#2011-023 – 528 Mohegan Avenue Parkway: Channel Bank Stabilization, Applicant & Owner Town of Waterford Utility Commission, Agent – Dennis A. Dievert, Jr., P.E.

Neftali Soto, Chief Engineer, Town of Waterford Utility Commission, explained the project to the Commission members. M. FitzGerald distributed and reviewed with the Commission her comments on the application.

N. Soto explained that the FEMA funding will only allow work on Town owned property and not any state owned property. The project is looking to replace 100 feet of rip rap adjacent to the pump station. The amount from FEMA is lower than they were anticipating. The Utility Commission will be using their own staff to do the work and any cost savings will allow them to do more. The Utility Commission will limit mowing near the bank to allow for deeper root growth to assist in stabilizing the bank as suggested and materials stored on the property by neighbors will also be removed.

J. Sims questioned N. Soto about removing the existing underground oil tank and moving it to

inside the pump station and the existing bioxide tank on the site. N. Soto stated that the new fuel tank will be located inside the building, the bioxide tank will remain outside on the concrete pad. The tank is strapped to the ground and building.

R. Muckle questioned if channel erosion occurred upstream from the site. N. Soto stated that there is not much erosion upstream.

MOTION: Motion made by H. Curtis, seconded by D. Lersch, to have staff prepare a draft permit with conditions as discussed.

VOTE: 7-0-0

4. NEW APPLICATIONS

#2011-024 – 12 Memory Lane: Shed, Applicant & Owner – Robert & Jill Patten.

M. FitzGerald reported that the application had been submitted without a site plan and reviewed her correspondence to the property owner and the map of existing conditions measures at the site. She recommended that if a site plan is not submitted for the October 13, 2011 meeting, the application should be denied as incomplete and a Notice of Violation will be issued.

#2011-025 – 54 Old Norwich Road: Forest Harvest, Applicant – Chris Casadei, Owner – Jennifer Crosby.

M. FitzGerald reviewed the timber harvest description and site map with the Commission. She explained she had walked the site with the forester and reviewed the wetland crossings and haul routes. The primary travel routes are shown on the submitted map. There will be two wetland crossings, one of the crossings will be using an existing bridge and the second will be using corduroy. All cutting is proposed to occur outside of the wetland areas. The logs will be removed by forwarders and best management practices will be used to restore areas.

MOTION: Motion made by D. Lersch, seconded by W. Thomas, finding the activity meets the criteria of a permitted use under Section 4.1 with the stipulation that best management practices be used to protect wetlands and watercourses.

VOTE: 7-0-0

5. VIOLATIONS

20 Rope Ferry Road: Second Notice of Violation, sent September 15, 2011 - Violation of Permit #10-17 – Unauthorized Discharge of Sediment to Wetlands and Watercourses: Review Corrective Actions and September 12 Corrective Action Plan per NOV#1.

Gus Kotait, Project Manager, Scott Medeiros, McFarland-Johnson and Jay Miner, Buildings & Grounds, Waterford Board of Education were present.

S. Medeiros reviewed his letter dated September 21, 2011 with the Commission outlining the corrective measures completed and planned at the site to address the corrective actions in the notices of violation. He stated that many meetings have occurred to assist with clearing the Notice of Violation and he feels that the site is now under control.

J. Sims stated that he saw the site today and two weeks ago and stated that it looks like progress

has been made.

M. FitzGerald stated that the site has come a long way, but there are corrective actions that remain to be completed, particularly the temporary sediment basins to handle the run-off from the building site. She does not recommend finding the violation has been corrected at this time.

She distributed a plan showing modifications proposed to the football field drainage outlet. The plan requires temporary disturbance of inland wetlands and was submitted as a permit modification request within the appropriate statutory timeframe for the Commission to review. The Commission modified the agenda to review the requested modification that was submitted.

#2011-026 – 20 Rope Ferry Road: Modification to Permit #2010-017.

M. FitzGerald reviewed the plan modification, stating the activity requests temporary disturbance of approximately 200 square feet of inland wetlands to promote drainage from the level spreader to the receiving wetlands.

J. Sims questioned G. Kotait when they would like to start. G. Kotait responded as soon as weather conditions allow.

MOTION: Motion made by D. Lersch, seconded by W. Thomas, to approve the modification with the stipulation that the work is supervised and measures taken to prevent sediment discharge to the wetland and stabilize the disturbed area.

VOTE: 7-0-0

MOTION: Motion made by H. Hanson, seconded by N. Hicks, to modify the agenda to allow a brief presentation from Troy Roberts, Waterford Boy Scouts Troop 36.

VOTE: 7-0-0

Troy Roberts, Waterford Boy Scouts Troop 36, explained that he is looking to do an eagle scout project at Stenger Farm to create a new fishing area with a couple of benches on the western side of the lake. He is proposing to clear an area 15 feet wide to provide a fishing access point. The cut stumps will remain in place and native sedges will be transplanted to the site to prevent against erosion. T. Roberts stated the activity is being proposed as a permitted use under Section 4.2 and 4.3 of the regulations. He is waiting for Mr. Brian Flaherty, Director of Recreation & Parks, to sign the application form.

T. Roberts stated that as part of the project, an existing sign will be repaired and a new sign identifying this eagle project will be installed. Repairs will also be made to the existing deck and trash picked up. T. Roberts noted that 5 to 10 trees will be removed and a small amount of brush will be cleared. A downed tree in the pond will be removed.

The Commission thanked T. Roberts for the proposal.

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

M. FitzGerald reported that a court date has been scheduled for Monday, September 26, 2011.

51 Shore Road: Notice of Violation - Violation of Permit #97-07 – Tree Cutting & Brush Clearing in Wetland and Designated Non-Encroachment Area.

M. FitzGerald reported that the fence has been installed, the wetland has been planted and she will conduct a final walkthrough of the property.

494 Boston Post Road: Fill Adjacent to Inland Wetlands & Watercourses.

M. FitzGerald reported that she had received an email from Mr. Cristofaro that he received a truckload of topsoil and plans to be 90 percent complete with his project by the end of the weekend.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

2012 Draft Meeting Calendar

The Commission reviewed the draft 2012 meeting schedule.

MOTION: Motion made by N. Hicks, seconded by R. Muckle, to approve the draft 2012 meeting schedule as presented.

VOTE: 7-0-0

CL & P Millstone Line Separation Project

The Commission reviewed correspondence dated September 13, 2011 from Mark Smith, CL&P Project Manager requesting to provide a presentation to the Commission regarding a proposed line separation project. M. FitzGerald stated that a copy of the petition No. 1007 to the CT Siting Council has been included with the correspondence for the Commission to review.

7. CONSERVATION COMMISSION TASKS

No report from the wetland education subcommittee.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Commission reviewed the correspondence.

9. PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION: Motion made by W. Thomas, seconded by N. Hicks, to pay the \$5,400.00 bill for stream sampling to KB Analytical.

VOTE: 7-0-0

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion by W. Thomas, seconded by D. Lersch, to adjourn the meeting at 8:445 pm.

VOTE: 7-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Kotfer
Recording Secretary