

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND/WETLANDS and WATERCOURSE AGENCY
July 15, 2009
7:30 P.M.

The Lyme Inland/Wetlands and Watercourse Agency held a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m., Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Road, Lyme, CT.
MEMBERS PRESENT Paul Armond Chairman, Aaron Reneson, Beverly Crowther, Fred Bliven, Bernie Gigliotti ZEO and Patsy Turner Secretary.

MEMBERS PRESENT ON 7/09 SITE WALKS: N/A

REGULAR MEETING

Judith Schaaf, 69 Cove Road, Tax Map 17, Lot 11; an application for construction of a stairway to a proposed boat dock on Hamburg Cove.

Present at the meeting was Fern Trembly (Gary Sharpe and Associates) to represent Judith Schaaf.

Trembly: The pier and dock will be fixed with 8 piles. The high tide line reaches the lower section of the stairs attached to the pier. The dock will extend approximately 62 feet into the Cove and will be an open construction. The far end of the dock will be located approximately 70 feet away from navigational channel located in the Cove. Rich Snarski has viewed the area and there are no endangered species. There is substantial aquatic vegetation; the end of the fixed dock will be constructed of follow through material as to allow the sunlight and rain to reach the vegetation. The decking is an open grate material.

Armond: The material will still shade the area.

Trembly: The material was approved by the DEP. The float will be located past the area with vegetation. The existing dock was not permitted and had to be removed; the existing dock located on the property was constructed by the previous owners. The goal is to replace the existing dock with the proposed dock. The plans have been approved by the DEP, the Army Core of Engineers, and the Lyme Planning & Zoning Commission. The pilings will be placed from a barge off shore. The details of the piers and pilings are shown in the plans.

Bliven: The wooden platform will be attached to the shore.

Trembly: There will be approximately 6 to 8 cement tubes which will be hand dug and the platform will be built on the tubes.

Gigliotti: The shoreline is very rocky. There is mountain laurel on the shore.

Reneson: The steps located on the shore will be left.

Trembly: The photographs show the stairs.

Bliven: There is no vegetation growing in the area where the dock will be located.

Erosion control may be needed for run-off during construction.

Gigliotti: There is not evidence of recent run-off.

Armond: The slope below the platform should be stabilized with riprap.

Gigliotti: The trench from run-off is uphill from the stairs.

Trembly: A check dam could be placed in the area of concern.

Bliven: The commission will need to see detailed plans for the area above the stairs.

Armond: Recent court cases have dictated application can not be approved with conditions; details should be incorporated into the plans. The details needed have to do with the pilings, the decking, the platform, and the sedimentation & erosion controls.

Crowther: The site could be visited before the next meeting to view the eroded area above the stairs.

Armond: This application will be back before this commission next month.

Camp Claire, 15 Oakland Ave., Tax Map 27, Lot 1; an application for enlargement of a deck on one of the camps within a regulated area.

Present at the meeting was Don Gerber to represent Camp Claire.

Gerber: The site plan shows the existing deck on one camp; the goal is to upgrade the deck to meet building codes. The camp is located nearest the lodge. The area where the camp is located is flat; the existing deck has a 73 foot setback and the setback will be 65 feet after the new deck is constructed. The high water mark is shown on the plans. The slope is steep. The proposed deck will be 14 feet by 20 feet; the material of the decking will be pressure treated and the posts will be connected to cement tubes.

Bliven: The vegetation in the area will be covered by the deck.

Gigliotti: There is very little undergrowth located beneath the proposed deck location; the area is covered with leaves.

Armond entertained a motion to approve the application as presented. The motion was moved by Crowther, seconded by Bliven, and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Lombardino

Gigliotti: Mr. Lombardino has reported back on the clearing of the invasive species on his property; the area was mowed in the winter and the area has come up covered with ferns, which are choking out the barberry. The barberry that is coming up is being treated with round-up. His plan is to continue the same process due to the success.

NEW BUSINESS

Preliminary discussion of barberry removal on the Jewett and Mt. Archer Properties.

Present at the meeting was Linda Bireley.

Bireley: The barberry on Jewett and Mt. Archer was viewed; aerial photos were presented. The area on Jewett Preserve would be approximately 2 acre parcel of clearing along the property line; Dan Magaullin from All Habitats was out to the property. The second area is located on the Eno Preserve and is approximately the same size area. The barberry is very dense; the machine will clear cut the area and small saplings will be undisrupted.

Armond: The areas could be used as an experimental process to try different methods and be a learning process to discover the best application for removal. The most affective method at this point is by using a propane torch at the base of the plants.

Bireley: The goal for the preliminary discussion is to inquire as to the amount of details for the removal of the invasive species is needed for the application.

Armond: The opportunity to do research on the most affective plan for removal would be helpful in the future.

Discussion of bridge installation and trail maintenance on Lyme Land Conservation Trust holdings.

Present at the meeting was Linda Bireley.

Bireley: A Boy Scout Troop is willing to build a small bridge in the Honey Hill Preserve; the bridge will cross a small stream. The bridge will not be a permanent structure; there will not be earth disruption. The LLCT would like guidelines in place to allow Gigliotti to approve small bridges in the future as to avoid coming before the commission for every little bridge needed in the preserves and invasive clearing.

Armond: It would depend on the application and process of each clearing; if the plants are being pulled out, that would disrupt the soil.

Reneson: Chemicals being used in regulated areas would be the concern for the commission.

Crowther: The information collected on the removal of the invasive species would be helpful to other property owners.

Armond: Activities within regulated areas are the commission's concern; all removal of invasive species should come before the commission. The decision should be discussed when there are more commission members present. There is no need for an application for the bridge installation; Gigliotti can approve (non-permanent structures) bridges.

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2009 meeting was made by Bliven, seconded by Crowther, and passed unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Turner, Secretary