

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS and WATERCOURSE AGENCY

June 21, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Inland Wetlands Agency held a regular meeting on Wednesday June 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Road, Lyme, CT.

MEMBERS PRESENT Paul Armond Chairman, Beverly Crowther, Ben Kegley, Pat Crowley, Priscilla Hammond, Bernie Gigliotti ZEO, and Patsy Turner Secretary.

Absent Members: S. Kurlansky (alternate), S. Hessel (alternate) T. Reynolds, R. Dill

REGULAR MEETING

Mitchell and Karen Etess, 116-2 Blood St. Tax Map 34 Lot 3; an application to construct a 12 ft. x 12 ft. addition to an existing boat dock.

Present at the meeting was Bill Lesick representing the applicants.

Lesick: The Etess have an existing 12'X12' boat dock attached to a cement/stone wall the proposal is to add an additional 12'X12' floating dock. The material will match the existing with galvanized hardware (dock hinges) and will have floatation devices under the square addition.

Gigliotti stated that the certified mail receipts were received.

Armond: Are there any questions from the commission on this application?

Kegley: Will the docks be removed in the winter?

Lesick: The plan was to leave the docks in the water over the winter.

Crowley entertained a motion to approve the application as submitted, Hammond seconded the motion. A vote was called for by Armond, and the motion was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Zipp acting as the buyer for the Ambrose Property at 30-1 Brockway Ferry Rd. Tax Map 9 Lot 5; presentation of a restoration plan for the clear cut hillside and lifting of the cease- and-desist order put in place on May 2, 2017.

Present at the meeting was Tom Zipp the new owner of 30-1 Brockway Ferry Road.

Zipp: The hillside seems to be sprouting more since the slope was viewed by the commission. Photographs were handed to the commission of the growth. A representative (George Ballek) from Ballek's Garden Center was out to the property and has made suggestions; it was stated that the hillside seems to be reestablishing and a list of native species was suggested (Sweet Fern, Blueberry, Rhus Aromatica, Winterberry, and Witch Hazel-total of 70 plants).

Armond: There is still bare ground on the slope.

Gigliotti: Vegetation is sprouting up, more than what was viewed previously.

Armond: The native plants which are located on the slope should be expanded.

Zipp: There is growth coming through the woodchips.

Armond: The suggestion for the new plantings is that smaller plants are better, 1" X1", the smaller the plants the less disruption will occur on the slope.

Crowther: Ballek's has made good suggestions of plants to add a variety to the slope. The broken twigs and small branches could be removed from the slope.

Armond: The first three plants on the re-planting plan (Sweet Fern, Blueberry, and Rhus Aromatica) have the potential for runners and will create groups of plants. The plants should be planted by hand. The smaller plants can be ordered for this project.

Crowther: Going into the warm season these new plants will require watering.

Armond: Watering does need to happen for the first year.

Zipp: Is there any way that this commission would be satisfied with the growth thus far and consider that the plants will continue to spread without adding new plantings?

Armond: Another site visit can be scheduled to view the growth, but that will prolong the planting into the hotter months. The hillside will be viewed and if the existing plants will not be sufficient than a fall planting can be planned. The cease and desist is still attached to the hillside until a decision is made.

Crowther: Is the expense of the plantings a concern and deciding factor? The quantity which has been suggested by the garden center could be reduced?

Zipp: The expense is one obstacle but the other is if we start digging holes it may disrupt the soils more.

Armond: Three to four year seedlings would be best for this area. Suggestions for planting from seed would be Red Clover and Winter Rye which fade out over time.

Kegley: Planting from seed will stabilize the soil until a decision is made.

The commission gives Armond the authority to make a decision on this issue while revisiting the site. A site walk was scheduled for June 23rd in the morning.

Continuation of Mitchell and Karen Etes 116-2 Blood St.

A concerned neighbor entered the meeting (Beth Jones) and had questioned about the Etes application.

Armond stated that the application was reviewed by the commission and a vote to approve has taken place because of there being no issues with the addition to the existing float.

Comments would have been more helpful before a vote was taken. There is a 15 day appeal period to the courts. The Inland/Wetlands Regulations state the setbacks from lakes & watercourses and they can be reviewed by any member of the public on-line. A floating dock is not a permanent structure.

Gigliotti added that the smaller lakes do not have regulations on the sizing of docks; Rogers Lake has the Roger's Lake authority to control issues that arise.

Joseph Fouquette 509-1 Hamburg Road Tax Map 38 Lot 6; cease and desist order for clearing and filling of wetlands.

Gigliotti: Mr. Fouquette is still in the process of developing a plan to rectify his issue on his property. Professionals have been contacted and he is waiting on quotes.

Armond: The fill which was moved needs to be pulled back to the A-horizon, which is buried, to expose the seed bank that exists and the area will regrow.

Discussion of the changes proposed for the wetlands regulations.

Armond questioned the commission members as to how the homework assignment of reviewing the regulations went.

Hessel, Armond, Kegley, Hammond, and Crowley gave their input which will be added to the edited version of the regulations. Crowther, Dill, Reynolds, and Hessel may have more to add.

Corrections and additions to the regulations were discussed.

Continuation of Mitchell and Karen Etes 116-2 Blood St.

Crowther introduced the member of the public whom entered the meeting, Mr. Forstein husband of Beth Jones, the concerned neighbor who had questions earlier. The application was approved.

Forstein: I have a letter from a concerned resident about the proposed dock.

Hammond stated the application was viewed at 7p.m. and a decision was made. Then time was spent discussing the dock with B. Jones. There is a right to file an appeal of the decision to the courts.

Discussion of the changes proposed for the wetlands regulations.

The fees section of the regulations will be reviewed by Gigliotti and Turner; will be consistent with surrounding towns.

Turner commented that some of the wording is part of a Statute and cannot be changed. A list of information collected from commission members will be created.

The commission will get another editing opportunity after the changes have been collected and added.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES

A motion was made by Armond to approve the minutes of the May 2017, Crowley moved the motion and was seconded by Crowther, and the minutes were accepted.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Turner, Secretary