

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS and WATERCOURSE AGENCY
October 18, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Inland Wetlands Agency held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Road, Lyme, CT.

MEMBERS PRESENT Paul Armond Chairman, Tom Reynolds Acting Chairman, Beverly Crowther, Ben Kegley, Pat Crowley, Priscilla Hammond, Sue Hessel seated for Roger Dill, Bernie Gigliotti ZEO, and Patsy Turner Secretary.

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

Site walk: B. Crowther, P. Crowley, & B. Kegley

Seat Alternate Member

Armond: Alternate member Sue Hessel was seated for absent regular member Roger Dill.

REGULAR MEETING

Maureen and Gil Johnson, 150 Ferry Road Tax Map 4 Lot 5; an application for removal of invasive plant species along Whalebone Cove.

Gigliotti: The applicants are not ready to present a replanting plan, the invasion of the Bittersweet is worse than expected; the cutting and painting of the invasive will continue throughout the remainder of the Fall and into the Spring of next year. Then the replanting will take place; grass seed was spread on the disturbed areas to stabilize the soils.

Judith Duran, 53 Mt Archer Rd. Tax Map29 Lot 49; an application for removal of invasive vegetation along the Eight Mile River.

Present at the meeting was Judith Duran.

Hammond: Judith has stated that vegetation will not be removed. She will be thinning the vegetation.

Reynolds: There should be a stipulation attached to the approval which dictates the height that the Beech Tree trimming should be cut.

Gigliotti: The invasives should be cut back and painted with herbicides.

Armond: The invasives should be cut to the ground and then painted which will weaken the plants. The Beech Trees can be cut to one foot in height.

Crowther: The site was revisited and the Beech sprouts are currently approximately 1 foot high.

Hammond entertained a motion to approve the application with stipulations on trimming height of Beech Trees. Hessel seconded the motion.

Armond called for comments or questions on the application.

Crowther: The person doing the work should be monitored by Judith.

Duran: The intent is that the trimming is done correctly.

Armond: The motion was passed with one abstention (B. Kegley).

NEW BUSINESS

Paul Armond was recused from this section of the meeting due to being an abutter to the Godley property. Tom Reynolds was seated as the acting chairman.

Gigliotti: The Godley application was receive after the agenda was sent to the commission.

Matt Godley, Mt. Archer Road, plans for new construction of house, studio, driveway, and septic system.

Present at the meeting was Matt Godley.

Godley: The footprint shown on the plans pushes into the wetlands setbacks. The southern edge of the studio will include a deck area. There is a swale located between the proposed location of the studio and the southern ledge; the water flows away from the studio and downhill. The deck attached to the studio will be cantilevered. The studio will be solar; the plan is to create a net zero house and studio on the property. The intrusion to the setbacks would be no more than 15 feet. The sonotubes will be further away and under the deck area. The property is level and ready to begin the project; the only excavating will be minimal. The wetland is an intermittent stream which is currently dry.

Reynolds called for questions and comments.

Crowther: The wetlands area is protected by the ledge.

Kegley: The property is like a basin and is protected.

Reynolds: This application will be seen next month. Does this need to be part of the site visits for next month?

Godley: The property can be visited anytime.

Armond returned to the meeting as Chairman for the remainder of the agenda items.

Return to REGULAR MEETING

Richard Snarski, Ely Ferry Road; an application for construction of a meadow sod hut within a regulated area.

Present at the meeting were Rich and Laurie Snarski.

R. Snarski: (Photograph of a sample hut was handed to the commission members) The proposed plan is to create a sod hut in the area where a camper is located currently, 50 feet from the river. The meadow has been planted with native plant species and is doing really well. The hut will be used for storage and an occasional overnight stay; no septic system or electricity. The hut will be post and beam, designed by an Architect; the posts will be Cedar and stone will be used also.

Armond: Does this are flood?

Reynolds: Not much, the southern end of the river doesn't flood much because of the tidal affect. High flooding is a concern in the Middletown area.

Gigliotti: The structure will be designed to flood.

R. Snarski: The roof will be seeded with the same surrounding plant species.

Reynolds: Once the plans are created the commission would have to see them.

Snarski: The plans will be completed by springtime.

Sairon LLC., 34 Hamburg Rd Tax Map 24 Lot 13; amendment to permit for buffer plantings adjacent to wetlands.

Present at the meeting was Fritz Gahagan representing Sairon LLC.

Gahagan: The property is owned by the Davidson family. Previously the commission saw this property for encroachments to the wetlands and a plan was approved to plant Pine Trees to create a buffer area between the maintenance area & the wetlands area. While cleaning up the area many large boulders were discovered. The intent is to place the boulders as the buffer and not plant the trees. The boulders would clearly define the area and stop future intrusion to the area that prohibits human activity.

Armond: This application is for a modification to a previously approved application.

Reynolds entertained a motion to accept the modifications to the plan as submitted. The motion was seconded by Crowley. The motion was passed unanimously.

Gahagan: There will be a corrected plan submitted to Gigliotti for the file.

Camp Claire, 15 Oakland Ave Tax Map 27 Lot1; an application for construction of a new stone retaining wall to replace the existing deteriorated wooden wall within Hamburg Cove and associated work within a regulated area.

Present at the meeting was Keith Neilson, Docko Inc. representing Camp Claire.

Neilson: The application is for the restoration and repair of an existing facility located at the water front of Camp Claire. The wood wharf is deteriorating; the wood will be replaced with stone; built from behind the existing structure. Permits from the DEEP and Army Core of Engineer will be applied for this project, a certificate of permission allows for minor modifications to long standing structures; a preliminary discussion has taken place.

Crowther: Will the wood be removed once the stone structure is built?

Neilson: The deteriorated wood will be removed when the project is complete; the current structure will act as a wave barrier and erosion control during the construction. The smaller existing loose stone wall will be rebuilt. The proposed project is mostly water ward of the mean high tide line.

Armond: This may not require approval from this agency.

Reynolds: If there is regrading of the peninsula area this agency does have jurisdiction.

Neilson: There will be some regrading; the area will be raised eleven inches. The stone being brought to the site for building the wall will match the look of the stone cottage; the stone will be mortared and have a concrete base for stability; the tie-back system would make the area unusable.

Crowley: From being on the site walk it is clear there is a need for the repair before the area gets any worst.

Armond: This application will be seen next month.

OLD BUSINESSN/A

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES

A motion was made by Armond to approve the minutes of the September 2017.

Crowther moved the motion, seconded by Hammond, and the minutes were accepted with 1 abstention (S. Hessel).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Turner, Secretary