

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS and WATERCOURSE AGENCY
May 16, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Inland Wetlands Agency held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Road, Lyme, CT.

MEMBERS PRESENT Paul Armond Chairman, Sue Hessel present but not seated, Tom Reynolds, Beverly Crowther, Priscilla Hammond, Ben Kegley, Pat Crowley, Roger Dill, Bernie Gigliotti ZEO, and Patsy Turner Secretary.

Absent Members: S. Kurlansky (alternate)

Site walk: B. Kegley, R. Dill, B. Crowther

REGULAR MEETING

Malvin and Gail Karwoski, 46-3 Gungy Road, Tax Map 53 Lot 1; an application to install a boat dock in Whitford Pond.

Present at the meeting was Malvin Karwoski.

Karwoski: The plan is before the commission which shows the location of the proposed dock and material to be used to install the structure.

Armond called for comments from the commission members that were on the site walk.

Crowther: There proposed area does not have a steep slope and there is no intent to establish a pathway, the area will be left natural. What will happen to the dock in the winter when ice forms?

Karwoski: The water level in the pond is consistent; there is a spillway that connects to Cedar Lake.

Dill: The chosen location is ideal for the property.

Gigliotti: The application was received last month.

Reynolds made a motion to accept the plan for the boat dock in Whitford Pond as submitted. The motion was seconded by Hammond and was passed unanimously by all members seated.

Joshua Abrams, 155 Joshuatown Road, Tax Map 18 Lot 8; an application to create a recirculating watercourse within a wetland and regulated area utilizing water from an existing pond.

Present at the meeting were Joseph Kelleher-PLA and Rob Townsend, (Aquascapes of CT, LLC). Armond recapped that last month the application was viewed by the commission and suggestions were given to the applicant.

Kelleher: The revised plans have been submitted; the plans show the existing conditions of the site, the demolition & sedimentation/erosion control with the location of the silt fence (around the pond and along the wetlands), and the trees will be protected during the construction phase. The construction will occur within the designated area. There will be 3 White Pine Trees removed and 4 flowering trees will be transplant closer to the house. The recirculating watercourse location is shown on the plans; the dashed line shows the location of the return water line and the pump vault will be located in proximity to the existing compressor. The water pipe will run alongside of the created watercourse.

Townsend: The trench for the piping is required to be 6 to 12 inches in depth.

Kelleher: The dark green shading on the plans is the proposed location of the landscaping plan; the native plant species list is located on the document.

Armond: The ferns (Lady Fern and Hay Scented Fern) that are listed are highly aggressive and tend to overtake an area.

Dill: Currently the water is exiting the ground and the natural flow would be towards the wetlands.

Armond: The new construction of the watercourse may create a barrier to the sheet flow.

Kelleher: The water will naturally find a way into the wetlands due to the lowness of the area near the pond. There will be a mowed path.

Crowther: The machinery being used to transport the boulders may disrupt the soils near the silt fence and the trench machinery will be substantially smaller in size.

Townsend: The machinery will have minimal impact in the driest season (Fall 2018).

Crowther: The tree located nearest the pond has a substantial root spread; the hope is to protect the tree and the root system.

Townsend: The areas near the tree roots will be hand dug to avoid impact to the trees.

Dill: Are there pools proposed for the watercourse and will fish be in the pools? The pools would encourage amphibians.

Townsend: There are no plans for fish to be located in the pools.

Kelleher: The pool spills will be approximately 12 inches.

Dill: While on the site walk woodchip piles were viewed; those piles should be removed.

Kelleher: The woodchip pile is part of the list for the land maintenance to remove.

Gigliotti to Townsend: Is there a spill way from the pond?

Townsend: There is a spill way into the wetlands area.

Dill: Gigliotti took photographs of the area for the record and the property can be revisited in 1 year.

Armond entertained a motion to approve the application as presented.

Hammond moved the motion and Crowther seconded.

Armond called for further discussion.

Dill: A condition to revisit the property in Fall 2019.

The motion was carried with 1 condition.

Carol Ochenfeld, 35-1 Ferry Road, Tax Map 8 Lot 44; an application for construction of a new septic system within a regulated area.

Present at the meeting was Carol Ochenfeld.

Gigliotti received the certified mail return receipts from the applicant.

Ochenfeld: The home is being remodeled to be a 2 bedroom/2 bathroom house and the current septic system does not meet Health Code. The contractor will be Red Construction; the existing system will be pumped and demolished. A new 1,000 gallon septic tank will be installed with the leaching fields.

Armond: The size of the tank could be increase to accommodate future expansion of the home.

Gigliotti: The Town Sanitarian (George Calkins) has been involved with this from the beginning and test holes have been dug; no letter as of yet but a verbal approval was received.

Armond: This application will be seen again in June.

Polly Richter, 236 Beaver Brook Road, Tax Map 45 Lot 8; an application for construction of a boat dock Cedar Lake.

Present at the meeting were Polly Richter and David Cook.

Richter: The proposed boat dock (constructed by Tommy Docks) will be 4 feet wide and 60 feet in length; extending 50 feet from the shoreline. The dock will rest on foot pads that sit atop the sediment of the lake. The framing of the dock will be aluminum and the decking will be PCV. The location of the dock has very shallow water.

Crowther: The location is a shallow back-cove; the depths of water are provided.

Reynolds: Is the vegetation in the area emergent or submergent grasses; the DEEP prefers docks to be great in height for areas which have emergent vegetation to allow for sunshine to reach the plants.

Dill: The area is fished often; there are mostly lily pads in the pond where the dock would be located. The pathway to the dock area is very well maintained, the construction of the walkway was approved over 15 years ago.

Richter: Our interests are the same as the commission's to protect the land and environment.

Gigliotti: Ponds do not have a square footage requirement for docks.

Cook: The first 10 feet of the dock will be land ward.

Gigliotti: The Lyme Planning and Zoning Commission did approve the application this week; the one thing the commission suggested was to attempt to shorten the dock length.

Richter: The dock will be used primarily for swimming and for launching canoes/kayaks occasionally, nothing motorized.

Armond: This application will be seen next month.

Sue Tiffany, Hamburg Road, Tax Map 26 Lot 34; an application to repair the spillway on the existing farm pond.

Gigliotti: The application can be accepted this evening. There was a site walk and the commission members may have comments.

Crowther: The area is very overgrown but a path was cut to allow access to the location of the farm pond.

Kegley: The valve which will be installed was explained while of the site visit; the diagram shows the location of the valve and the standpipe. The spillway is earth with grasses.

Gigliotti: The top of the spillway will be concrete.

Armond: A bird's eye view would be helpful; to see the shape of the pond, the topography, and how the farm pond will operate with the spillway.

Gigliotti: There is an item to be added to the agenda; 65 Tantumorantum.

James Eames, 65 Tantumorantum Road, a timber harvest.

Present at the meeting were Eric Hansen (Forester) and property owner James Eames.

Gigliotti: There is a wetlands crossing located on the property where the timber harvesting will be occurring. The application has been submitted; the stream runs around the back on the pond. Hansen was asked to explain the timber harvest.

Hansen: The dotted lines on the plan are the skid roads, the areas lined in red are the harvest locations, and any trees felled in the wetlands will be removed, no trees are marked to be cut within the wetlands area. The trees to be removed are marked on the property. There will be a tree buffer left untouched along the property line.

Reynolds: Will a skidder or a forwarder be used for this project? The wetlands crossing will have two landings?

Hansen: The harvest need to still go to bid. The plan is that the timber will be dragged over the temporary crossing.

Armond: The property will have a site visit. The diagram in the application shows the crossing construction.

Hansen: The plans will be marked more clearly with hash marks to show where the timber harvest will be happening. Thinning of the trees will allow for healthy growth; an attempt will be made to regenerate the Aspen Trees and require open space. The harvest will be spread across approximately 25 acres. The invasives will also be removed on the proposed area. The crossing

will be temporary and a contractor will be hired for the harvesting which will be overseen as the project continues.

Gigliotti: The site walk will be on Monday morning the 18th of June.

OLD BUSINESS

Regulation changes

Gigliotti: The final copies of regulations have been sent to the DEEP and neighboring municipalities for review and comment. The public hearing is set for June 2018.

NEW BUSINESSN/A

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES

A motion was made by Armond to approve the minutes of the April 2018 meeting. Hammond moved the motion, seconded by Crowley, and the minutes were accepted with 1 abstention from Reynolds.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Turner, Secretary