



CONSERVATION COMMISSION/
INLAND WETLANDS AND
WATERCOURSES AGENCY

LYME TOWN HALL
480 HAMBURG ROAD
LYME, CT 06371

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY
February 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Conservation Commission, acting as Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Road, Lyme, CT.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Armond, Chairman, Tom Reynolds, Roger Dill, Beverly Crowther, Patrick Crowley, Ben Kegley (entered at 7:09), Sue Hessel (alternate), Bernie Gigliotti, ZEO, and Jennifer Thomas, Secretary

Absent Members: P. Hammond, S. Kurlansky (alternate)

Site Walks performed by B. Crowther, R. Dill, and B. Gigliotti

Seat Alternate Member

Armond: Alternate member Sue Hessel was seated for absent regular member Priscilla Hammond.

REGULAR MEETING

Lyme Land Conservation Trust, 0 Salem Road, Tax Map 38 Lot 27; an application to construct a 12x12 picnic pavilion within 60 feet of the Eightmile River.

Present at the meeting: Sue Cope and Fritz Gahagan

Cope presented the application to the commission.

Armond questioned why the pavilion could not be moved to a location 100 feet from the wetlands in order to meet the regulations.

Cope: The pavilion is placed where the views are and where the public will naturally be drawn to.

Crowther stated that moving the pavilion easterly might provide better views based on what she saw during the site visit.

Gahagan: On behalf of the Land Trust's general counsel Waller, Smith, and Palmer, in terms of the reasonable test of whether or not the impact on the wetlands is balanced by public benefit and whether or not this is a reasonable use of a regulated area, the whole purpose of this is public education and public enjoyment of an aquatic resource and having it located in the viewshed of that resource will increase public enjoyment of the property for the charitable purposes of the Land Trust. It is in the public interest and there is not really, in our view, any over-balancing downside because there is no disturbance of the soil except for putting in the poles, there is no permanent structure in the way of concrete pilings or tubes and there is not going to be any regrading and then also the property there, there is gravel for 20-30 feet down, and so there will not be any drainage issues there.

Dill: Is there river access?

Cope: No. The property does go farther west. There is a deer trail that goes that way and we may explore the idea of doing a short spur trail that goes towards the water because people may go that way anyway.

Armond called for any comments from those who went on the site walk.

Dill asked about parking, and Cope stated that parking will be near the road, outside of the regulated area.

Armond entertained a motion for acceptance of the application. Crowther moved the motion, Crowley seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Raymond Farms, LLC, 0 Hamburg Road, Tax Map 38 Lot 1; an application for two wetlands crossings in support of a timber harvest.

Present at the meeting: Fritz Gahagan

Abutter present: Tom Darna

Gahagan presented Gigliotti with the certified mail receipts of the abutters and explained that the application is the same as the application presented to the commission at the November 2018 meeting. The Lyme Land Conservation Trust, who holds a conservation easement on the property, also wrote a letter stating their approval of the timber harvest.

Armond verified with Gahagan that the company performing the timber harvest understands the contents of the letter.

Armond asked for comments from the members who have been to the site.

Dill mentioned that the harvest is well away from the wetlands, and that there are only the two wetlands crossings that are affected.

Tom Darna, an abutter, asked several questions, including whether he will be able to see the clearing, and the anticipated hours of operation.

Gahagan stated he will not be able to see the clearing and the work is being done well away from his property.

Armond reminded the abutter that he may call the ZEO if he ever has an issue with the work being done.

Armond entertained a motion to approve the application as presented. Dill moved the motion, Hessel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS N/A

NEW BUSINESS N/A

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MIINUTES

Armond entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2018 meeting. Hessel moved the motion, seconded by Crowther, and the minutes were approved with one abstention by Reynolds.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.