



CONSERVATION COMMISSION/  
INLAND WETLANDS AND  
WATERCOURSES AGENCY

LYME TOWN HALL  
480 HAMBURG ROAD  
LYME, CT 06371

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INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY  
February 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Conservation Commission, acting as Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Rd, Lyme, CT.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Paul Armond, Chairman, Sue Hessel, Ben Kegley, Patrick Crowley, Roger Dill, Tom Reynolds, Beverly Crowther, Ross Byrne ZEO, and Jennifer Thomas Secretary  
**Absent Members:** Christine Darnell and Steven Kurlansky (alternates)

**REGULAR MEETING**

**John and Mary Salvatore, 181 Blood St, Tax Map 40.1 Lot 12; an application to demolish, alter and construct new structures associated with primary residence both entirely and partially within the 100' regulated wetlands area. The application also includes construction of a new septic system partially within the 150' regulated area.**

Present: John and Mary Salvatore and representative

Armond reminded the commission that at the previous meeting the commission was waiting on an approval letter from the sanitarian before the application could be considered for approval and asked if Byrne had received a letter.

Byrne stated that an approval letter was submitted and presented Armond with a copy.

Armond called for a motion to approve the plan as presented. Hessel made the motion, seconded by Crowley, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Sarette Builders, LLC, 0 Grassy Hill Rd, Tax Map 40.2 Lot 3; Construction of a new house with on-site septic within the regulated area.**

Present: Bob Doane, engineer

Site walk was attended by Dill, Kegley, and Crowther. Hessel and Crowley visited the site on their own.

Doane supplied the commission with an updated plan showing some additional septic information.

Doane stated that the house, septic, and clearing limits were all staked out for this site visit. The seasonal high groundwater has been monitored and appears to be going down from the February 14, 2020 reading and the soils on site are favorable.

The groundwater is continuing to be monitored to establish the slope.

The house location will be about 200 feet from Grassy Hill Brook.

The commission members on the site walk commented on the high bush blueberries and the princess pine, and wondered if those plants might be dug up and transplanted or saved.

Armond stated that neither of these varieties would be good candidates for transplanting. Doane stated that unfortunately there is no way to save much of the princess pine within the clearing limits. The house, septic, and well locations are as close together as possible. Doane stated that they will be walking the site again to flag any trees within the clearing limit that they may be able to save, particularly some near the stone wall. Doane said that a question about restricting the use of livestock on the property came up at the site walk, and the owner would be agreeable to that. Crowther stated that Doane has gone over all of the sensitive aspects of the application and the site is a challenging one. Dill stated that if this was a newly subdivided lot, it would not be approved, but this is an existing lot. He thought the proposed plan is as good as it can be based on the site they are working on. Hessel stated that if a lawn was put in, there should be no herbicides or pesticides used. Doane stated that the applicant would entertain that as a condition of approval as well. Armond stated that the livestock and herbicides and pesticides conditions should be noted in the final approval, but without a letter from the sanitarian signing off on the proposed septic the commission is unable to act at this time.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Report by ZEO on planting inspection at 10 Ely Ferry Rd. Tax Map 25 Lot 8, as directed during November 20, 2019 meeting.**

Byrne stated that the plantings and landscaping appeared just as it did during the last inspection. The bank is holding steady and the woodchips do not appear to be moving. Armond thanked Byrne for the update.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Update commission on Notice of Violation sent to 138 Norwich Salem Rd, Tax Map 22 Lot 1, Brandon, Joshua, and Christopher Novak.**

Byrne stated that a Notice of Violation was sent to the owners because it was noted that some trees had been removed within a regulated area. The owners contacted to let him know that they were unable to make this month's meeting but will attend the March meeting to discuss.

##### **Friends of Whalebone Cove Request**

Byrne stated that he was approached by the Friends of Whalebone Cove who are concerned with invasive plant species and would like to come before the commission to give an informal presentation of their research and future plans.

Armond stated that he is aware of what they are doing and applauded their efforts but does not think a presentation to the board is the best use of their time because it is out of the commission's jurisdiction.

Reynolds agreed and said it may not be the best precedent to let organizations speak to the commission on matters of which they hold no jurisdiction.

Armond suggested the Friends of Whalebone Cove make the commission aware of any local presentations they will be making in the future.

Crowther asked Armond's opinion regarding members of the commission also becoming members of the Friends of Whalebone Cove now that the commission has no jurisdiction over the area.

Armond stated that he believes that to be a personal decision for each member, noting that the commission will not see an applicant from Whalebone Cove and so there should be no conflict of interest.

**APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES**

Armond called for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2020 meeting. Hessel made the motion, seconded by Dill, and the minutes were approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Thomas, Secretary