



CONSERVATION COMMISSION/
INLAND WETLANDS AND
WATERCOURSES AGENCY

LYME TOWN HALL
480 HAMBURG ROAD
LYME, CT 06371

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY
July 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Conservation Commission, acting as Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, held a Virtual regular meeting on July 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Armond Chairman, Roger Dill, Susan Hessel, Beverly Crowther, Tom Reynolds, Patrick Crowley, Ben Kegley, and unseated alternate Christine Darnell. Ross Byrne ZEO and Jennifer Thomas Secretary.

Absent Members: Steven Kurlansky alternate

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Teresa Deluca, 172 Brush Hill Road, Tax Map 20 Lot 8; an application to demolish, alter, and construct a new primary dwelling structure entirely within the existing footprint. The existing structure is entirely within the 100' setback.

Present: Teresa Deluca and David Bisceglia

Site walks performed by Crowley, Darnell, Kegley, and Dill

Dill commented the site was as described and the ledge presents a problem for erosion controls. Haybales seems like the best option.

Darnell stated that she felt comfortable with the plan.

Byrne stated that Mr. Bisceglia has two options to discuss tonight. Option one would be haybales on the rock formations and around the house or option two would be to lay down haybales on the edge of the deck with tarp to catch debris.

Armond asked what the planned length of time for demolition and removal is and Mr. Bisceglia stated it would be about three days. Mr. Armond stated that the length of exposure will be minimal then.

Mr. Bisceglia plans to remove the glass panels on the deck before the demolition. The haybales can be placed between the remaining stanchions with geotextile cloth to catch debris.

Reynolds agreed with this plan.

Dill asked how many layers of haybales would be placed on the deck.

Bisceglia stated they he plans to follow the sedimentation and erosion notes on the plan presented in addition to what is agreed to tonight.

Dill stated that two layers of haybales on the deck with the geotextile cloth woven up through the first and second layer should suffice.

Crowther asked if the approval is for the demolition or for the rebuilding portion of the project as well and Armond stated it should be for the entire project.

Crowther asked whether these measures would be satisfactory for the building process as well. Byrne added that the septic does not need to be expanded but if the owner chooses to do so, a silt fence and typical measures would be put in place.

Hessel stated that the motion should be worded so that if the owner chooses to expand and modify the septic, they will need to either get approval from Byrne or come back to the commission for approval.

Darnell questioned if there was a plan for roof runoff.

Bisceglia stated that the roof is planned to be much as it is currently and there were no plans to change that.

Kegley asked if there were gutters and leaders on the plan.

Bisceglia stated that most of the water runs right off the roof to the ground. There are gutters on part of the house. The roof is going from cedar shakes to metal.

Armond called for any additional comments or questions.

Dill made a motion to accept the plan as present with the exception that where it is needed on the entire deck have filter fabric woven up into two layers of haybales which would be added to the existing siltation notes that are on the plan, and any modification or expansion of the septic will need to be brought back before the board for approval.

Crowley seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Novak, 138 Norwich Salem Road, Tax Map 22 Lot 1; discuss remediation of violation, cutting within the setback area.

Present: Brandon Novak

Site Walks performed by Crowley, Darnell, Kegley, and Dill

Byrne stated that the site plan was sent to the commission via email yesterday, and an accompanying plant list can be viewed on the screen.

Armond stated that the list includes one true tree with the red maple, two understory trees, and several bushes.

Byrne stated that at the site walk, the members were able to see a blue line painted on the ground which correlates with the line on the site plan. The 25-30 foot area closest to the house would be lawn and beyond the line down towards the wetlands would be replanted with the plants listed. The area was measured by Dill to be about 50 feet, with the total distance from the edge of the existing vegetation to the house about 75 feet. The existing vegetation extends another 25 feet to the vernal pool.

Dill stated that he measured the area from the edge of the pool to the blue line as 54 feet and 100 feet from the pool to the house, which would put the blue line around 50 feet away from the house.

Byrne stated that he stepped off the area from the corner of the house to the blue line and came up with 25-30 feet.

Darnell stated that the map does not appear to be accurate. Darnell commented that she is surprised that Mr. Novak does not know the regulations after years of being in the landscaping business and finds it hard to believe that he did not know he was doing anything wrong.

Novak stated that he thought putting a lawn next to the house was not a problem. Some of the trees removed were dead, and the disturbed area is only about 50 or 60 feet off the house. Novak measured 100 feet from edge of pond to the house. A 25-30 foot lawn seems more than reasonable.

Darnell stated that whole side of the yard is in the regulated area and the commission is saying that a significant area was cleared and the wetland area should be protected. A more substantial planting plan should be presented.

Dill asked if the woodchips can be removed and Novak agreed that they could be removed.

Darnell stated that she believes Novak should take Byrne up on his offer to meet with his landscaping company to review wetland regulations and begin to educate his clients on wetland issues.

Crowther questioned where the runoff from the house goes and Darnell stated that the slope goes into the wetlands but without a detailed plan it is hard for the commission to visualize.

Kegley commented that the slope is fairly steep.

Armond stated that he is opposed to woodchips in wetlands and asked what the extent of the woodchips was.

Kegley stated that the problem now is that the woodchips are already there and they should not be removed until the plantings and groundcover are going in because they are currently holding back the erosion and runoff.

Darnell stated that a groundcover layer is necessary to combat erosion and a smattering of plants is not enough.

Crowley stated that the commission needs a more formal plan.

Byrne asked the commission if they can recommend plants that they would like to see.

Armond suggested *Carex Pennsylvanica*.

Novak stated he would like to use a meadow mix in the area along the driveway that continues on to the wetlands area and asked the commission to tell him how many plants to plant.

Dill stated that a more detailed plan is needed and asked whether the soil should be flagged.

Novak stated that he can put some surveying stakes on the property and put the measurements on paper and asked that Byrne meet him on the property.

Armond stated that what the commission will need to see an accurate plot plan with accurate dimensions and accurate number of plants to be planted, including something like hay scented fern, *Carex Pennsylvanica* as a groundcover. These could be planted in bands of maybe 12-24 inches in the area between the house and the wetlands.

Dill said a few more red maples would be a good addition to the plan.

Darnell offered to come up with suggestions or websites to look at to determine what should be planted. She can pass that information along to Byrne and Byrne can work with Novak.

Crowther stated a little more attention is needed to the plan and asked when the commission would like this remediation to take place, understanding that the woodchips will need to remain until the plants are ready to be installed.

Armond stated that the woodchips may need to be replaced with something like a coir log until the plants have been established.

Reynolds questioned why the woodchips are an issue in this instance when in other cases woodchips have been allowed.

Armond commented that the commission evaluates applications on a case by case basis and believes that the woodchips should be removed in this case.

Dill stated that remediation should occur in September because any plantings before then would require an abundance of watering and Darnell and Armond agreed.

Armond confirmed that Novak will work on a more detailed plan and present to the commission at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Allan Dodds Frank and Lilian King, 622 Hamburg Road remediation.

Byrne provided an update to the commission, including a recent photo. The area is growing in nicely with the exception of one 8-10 foot area that does not have much vegetation growing.

Discussion on 117 Beaver Brook Road.

Crowther asked if there was an update on 117 Beaver Brook Road.

Byrne stated that the owner will be applying for permission to create a crossing through the wetlands to gain access to the rear of his property.

Armond stated that he went to the site with Byrne to view the area. The wetlands there have been degraded and the alternative to allowing a wetlands crossing is using an existing right of way which proves to be complex. Armond believes a crossing would be the right decision in this case. The crossing would consist of flat rocks placed before, during, and after the crossing to provide an area for a tractor crossing.

Byrne stated that a site walk will be completed prior to the commission seeing this application to understand the conditions of the property.

NEW BUSINESS-None

APPROVAL OF OUTSTANDING MINUTES

Armond called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2020 meeting. Hessel made the motion, seconded by Crowley, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Thomas, Secretary