



CONSERVATION COMMISSION/
INLAND WETLANDS AND
WATERCOURSES AGENCY

LYME TOWN HALL
480 HAMBURG ROAD
LYME, CT 06371

LYME CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY
October 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

The Lyme Conservation Commission, acting as Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, held a virtual regular meeting on October 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Armond Chair, Sue Hessel, Beverly Crowther, Patrick Crowley, Ben Kegley, Christine Darnell (seated alternate), Ross Byrne ZEO, and Jennifer Thomas Secretary. First Selectman Mattson present
Absent Members: Tom Reynolds, Roger Dill, and alternate member Steven Kurlansky
Several members of the public were also present

Armond called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Seat Alternate Member

Alternate member Christine Darnell was seated for absent regular member Tom Reynolds.

REGULAR MEETING

Brion Bonkowski, 27 Ely Ferry Road, Tax Map 25 Lot 19; application to construct a driveway partially within the 100-foot regulated area.

Present: Brion Bonkowski and Amy Calvanese

Site walk performed by Kegley

Brion presented a plan for a new driveway to service a new dwelling. The proposed driveway will begin within the regulated area and then move away from the regulated area. This property is on a blind curve and the location was chosen due to safety concerns. No fill will be used. A silt fence will be used to prevent erosion.

Armond called for any questions.

Crowther questioned how much of the driveway is within the 100-foot setback and Bonkowski stated that the driveway will be 16-18 feet wide and the driveway will start about 10-15 feet from the wetlands.

Kegley stated that the driveway just cuts across the regulated area, about 20 or 30 feet.

Byrne stated that he agrees with the placement due to the safety concerns and to achieve the greatest line of sight possible. He also had a conversation with Lars Anderson, director of public works, who agrees that this is the safest location for the driveway.

Kegley: There is a natural terrace on the east side of the stone wall that provides a natural erosion barrier keeping runoff out of the wetlands.

Byrne stated that there is a low spot near the end of the driveway and putting in some fill might be advisable.

Armond questioned whether a pipe might be more appropriate.

Darnell stated that it appears that they do not have a lot of options of where the driveway should go.

The commission voted to approve the application, with Crowley making the motion and Hessel second. However, following the vote it was determined that the commission must wait until the following month to formally vote on the application due to state statute. The applicants will return the following month for a formal vote.

Ernest and Doreen Lammer, 38 Burr Road, Tax Map 32 Lot 11; application to subdivide a lot and construct a single-family dwelling with driveway and pool within the 100-foot regulated area.

Present: Bob Doane, Engineer

Site walk performed by Kegley

Doane stated that the property owners would like to divide off a lot for their son. The first lot would be 3.93 acres and include the existing house and the second lot would be 1.89 acres on which a new dwelling will be built. A suitable site for a sanitary system has been located near Burr Road. The proposed patio and pool will encroach on the upland review area by about 50 feet. A couple of trees were noted during the site walk which will be marked to remain during clearing.

Richard Snarski has flagged the wetlands and reviewed the plan. A letter has been sent to the commission stating that with proper sedimentation and erosion controls, the project will have no adverse impacts on the wetlands.

The driveway will come off the existing driveway that services the neighbor's property.

Crowther asked for clarification that the commission is passing judgement on the subdivision as well as the proposed construction within the regulated area and Armond stated that the commission will advise the planning and zoning commission regarding the subdivision and make a judgement on the construction.

Doane asked the commission to accept the application and to make a determination as to whether the proposed constitutes significant activity.

Armond stated that the commission has accepted the application and the proposed would not constitute significant activity and so no public hearing is required. The commission agreed.

Darnell asked if she would be able to schedule a site visit before the next meeting, and Doane agreed to meet any commission member interested the following Saturday.

Discussion of proposed Birch Mill Bridge project.

Present: Don Gerber

Gerber presented the commission with the current plans for the Birch Mill Bridge project. Areas of discussion included the new design of the bridge and the requirement of DEEP to design for the 100-year flood line. The construction process was discussed, including sedimentation and erosion controls, timing of the project, and possible remediation plans for the permanently impacted area. Gerber stated that the town is still in the process of getting the required permits from the state and the project will go to a public hearing before moving forward.

Old Business

Byrne updated the commission on the plantings of 138 Norwich-Salem Rd, stating that the owner said the plants are on site and should be installed in the coming weeks.

New Business**Appoint ZEO as Wetlands Agent**

Byrne stated that he has completed the CT DEEP Inland Wetlands and Watercourses training program and asked the commission to formally appoint him as Wetlands Enforcement Agent. Armond called for a motion. Crowther made the motion, seconded by Hessel, and the motion carried.

Approval of minutes from the August 19, 2020 meeting

Armond called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2020 meeting. Crowley made the motion, seconded by Hessel, and the motion carried with abstentions from Crowther and Armond.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Thomas, Secretary