

MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Commission
October 12, 6:30 PM
Auditorium, Waterford Town Hall

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WATERFORD, CT

2023 OCT 18 P 2:52

TESTE: *David L. Lopez*
TOWN CLERK

Members Present: David Lersch, Tali Maidelis, Chairman Richard Muckle, Wade Thomas
Members Absent: Matthew Keatley (notified), Geneva Renegar (notified), (1 vacancy)
Alternates Present: Ivy Plis (2 vacancies)
Staff Present: Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner
Kim Powell, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Muckle at 6:32 PM. I. Plis was seated for the vacancy.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Motion made by W. Thomas, seconded by I. Plis to approve the September 14, 2023 meeting minutes.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion: Motion made by T. Maidelis, seconded by I. Plis to approve the September 19, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes.

Vote: 4-0-1, W. Thomas abstained

3. NEW APPLICATIONS

There were no new applications.

4. APPLICATION REVIEW

C-23-8 33 Kenyon Road, New Construction; Congregation Beth El Temple, Inc. Applicant, Wayne S. Garrick, AIA, Agent

James Sipperly, Certified Soil Scientist and CT Wetland Scientist and Michael Ott, P.E. Summer Hill, Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors, were present for the applicant. M. Ott stated the application will need to be continued due to the possibility of additional wetland area on the site.

J. Sipperly stated he submitted a report describing the original wetland delineation conducted in 2020. At the time, the property was mowed by the prior owner up to the woods line. Wetland flags numbered WL-1 through WL-39 were installed to delineate inland wetland soils. The wetland is a forested bog area off the north and east of the site with a well-defined boundary. He noted that in 3 years since the delineation, the site has become overgrown. Additional wetland vegetation is evident. He reviewed the area in question with Town staff and found it is an area of fill in a little depression on the site. He will be investigating the area and delineate wetland boundaries this weekend. He anticipates there may be an additional 2,000 sq. feet of wetland vegetation that will require modification of the parking area. A revised site plan will be prepared and submitted.

M. Ott presented an overview of the site plan. The building is a single story synagogue with a detached storage shed and dumpster area. Driveway access is from the existing curb-cut at Kenyon Road, utilities are underground. He reviewed the limit of clearing and disturbance marked by a

sediment control barrier. He noted the site drains easterly into a large wetland area which discharges to Green Swamp Brook via a culvert under Vauxhall Street Extension.

Mr. Ott described the stormwater quality swale as designed to contain run-off generated from the adjacent parking area, sidewalk and turn-around from a 1.3 inch storm. The roof area and access driveway are proposed to discharge as sheet-flow over vegetated area. The swale is not designed for on-site detention. M. Ott will conduct on-site infiltration testing in the proposed infiltration swale per staff's request.

W. Thomas questioned if standpipes could be installed to monitor groundwater over the winter. M. Ott noted he had dug test holes and found silty subsoil.

R. Muckle asked what happens in rainfall events greater than 1.3 inches. M. Ott replied the swale would overflow to the east to the large wetland area. J. Sipperly noted the wetland functions include flood storage and nutrient and pollutant retention.

D. Lersch inquired what the total drainage area to the wetland includes and how the site run-off may affect the high water level in the marsh and the culvert at Vauxhall Street. He noted he has removed beaver dams from the marsh which caused fluctuation in the water levels. M. Ott stated his first concern was to address water quality and control discharges. He will review the existing culvert.

5. VIOLATIONS

577 Vauxhall Street Extension: Notice of Violation & Corrective Actions - Issued 6-14-23
Unauthorized Activity within Inland Wetlands & Watercourses, Restoration required by 11-1-23.

No discussion.

52 Gurley Road: Notice of Noncompliance 9-7-23 Unauthorized Grading & Clearing of Stream Channel

A notice of non-compliance was issued on September 7, 2023 to the property owner for unauthorized clearing and grading in a stream channel. A stream restoration plan was required to be submitted within 30 days of the notice. There has been no response from the property owner. It was the consensus of the commission to have staff issue a Notice of Violation requiring a restoration plan be submitted to the Commission by October 26, 2023 and that the owner present the plan at the next Commission meeting scheduled for October 26, 2023.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

2024 Conservation Commission Meeting Schedule Discussion - The meeting schedule for 2024 was approved. The schedule will be forwarded to the Town clerk according to Connecticut General Statute 1-21.

49 Niantic River Road – Modify portion of non-encroachment area to control weeds and seed as lawn.

Staff reviewed unauthorized vegetation cutting conducted in a non-encroachment area at 49 Niantic River Road. The homeowners have submitted a preliminary plan for the Commission to consider,

requesting a reduction in the non-encroachment width to provide more lawn space. Commission members expressed concern with eliminating the non-encroachment buffer bordering the conservation easement area and wetlands. A request for permit modification is required. Staff will convey the concerns to the homeowners.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

To: J. Jamroga, 167 Niantic River Road – Fence Installation along Conservation Easement Boundary

To: A. Clark, Determination of Permitted Use -Timber Harvest; 130R & 88 Old Colchester Road and 34 & 34R Millers Pond Road

From: CTDEEP Complaint 2023-4748, Waterford Civic Triangle

The Commission received the correspondence. Staff noted she had responded to the DEEP complaint and the investigation has been closed.

8. PAYMENT OF BILLS

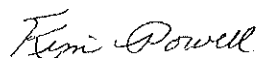
Motion: Motion made by W. Thomas, seconded by I. Plis to pay the Arbor Day Foundation Annual Membership invoice of \$20.

Vote: 5-0-0

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion made by W. Thomas, seconded by I. Plis to adjourn at 7:44 PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Kim Powell
Recording Secretary