



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

225 Center Road - Easton, Connecticut 06612

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TUESDAY, July 8, 2014

7:30 PM - Town Hall, Conf. Room A

PRESENT: Roy Gosse, Chairman; Stephen Edwards, Vice Chairman; Dori Wollen, Secretary; Cathy Alfandre; and Elliot Leonard

ABSENT: Stephen Corti; and Steven Hume

1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER: Roy Gosse called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 p.m.

2. INLAND WETLANDS APPLICATIONS:

- A. #14-469, 1220 Sport Hill Road - Diana R. Nicola - Clean existing pond of muck and debris. Received 2/25/14+65=5/1/14 w/approved 65-day extension to 7/5/14. The applicant has been unable to procure an acceptable plan from her contractor. On June 20, 2014, the Commission received a request from the applicant's representative, Robert J. Nicola, to withdraw the application with the request that when the applicant reapplies, the Commission consider waiving the application fee. Dori Wollen made a motion to approve the request to withdraw application #14-469, with the request to reapply with consideration given to waiving the application fee, and Elliot Leonard seconded. The vote was unanimous; motion carried.
- B. #14-477, 12 The Circle—Andrea Pinto. Add 2nd floor above single floor areas and build small addition on back of home (minor wording change on description from agenda). Received 7/8/14+65=9/11/14. Scott Davies of Champion Engineering was present with the homeowner, Paul Pinto, to discuss the application. Mr. Davies explained to the Members that the majority of the project would take place within the existing footprint, with most of the project being built above the existing home, with the bump-out replacing the existing patio. Mr. Davies added that the excavated material will be removed from the site. Roy Gosse told Mr. Davies and Mr. Pinto that the Members would be out to walk the property prior to the next meeting.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. V#05-143--Notice of Violation at 740 Stepney Road--Neunteufel and VonKuthy, issued 7/5/05
- B. Cease and Desist Order for property located at 740 Stepney Road-- Neunteufel and VonKuthy, issued 7/20/05

INST 4 S2014000307 RECD 10/14/2014 09:53:35 AM
CHRISTINE HALLORAN TOWN CLERK EASTON CT

- C. V#08-153—Notice of Violation at 68 Sport Hill Parkway—**Michael Newman**, issued 12/1/08
- D. Cease and Remediate order for 68 Sport Hill Parkway--**Michael Newman**, issued 4/21/09
In response to an inquiry passed on to the Commission by the Town of Fairfield (called in by a resident across the river from this address, noting activity on portions of the above-noted property), Phillip Doremus, WEO went out to the property. Unable to gain access by the driveway, Mr. Doremus attempted to view the property from the road on the other side of the river, Toll House Lane, but the view had become obstructed by foliage. The Members have asked that Mr. Doremus contact the homeowner with a request to gain access to the property to assess the nature of the work and to determine if a permit is necessary.
- E. V#11-158, Notice of Violation at 580 Sport Hill Road—**Austin Ganim**, issued 5/24/11
- F. V#12-162, Notice of Violation at 45 Heritage Drive--**Eve Lashar** issued 3/27/12
Steve Edwards made a motion to rescind the violation, based on a letter to the homeowner dated July 1, 2014, from Phillip Doremus, WEO, advising same, and Dori Wollen seconded. The vote was unanimous; motion carried.
- G. V#13-166, Notice of Violation at 235 Redding Road—**Darren Andreoli**, issued 7/10/13
- H. Amended Wetlands Permit #10-389, 288 Maple Road – Helena Morf, 4-lot subdivision.
The Commission is looking into what has been done thus far re this application. Report from the DEEP stated that Ron Ochman is working on the project and the State does not require bonds for a construction project authorized by them, unless it is on a State-owned dam. Department Secretary Krista Kot has received a status update from Mr. Ochman, and will forward it to the Members.
- I. V#14-474, Notice of Violation at 40 Sherwood Road – Brian Alberino and Sarah Gerard, issued 5/5/14. The homeowner received the Commission's letter but was unable to attend the meeting. The homeowner will be asked to attend the next meeting, July 22, 2014.
- J. V#14-475, Notice of Violation at 175-177 Everett Road – Dennis and Holly Pryor, issued 5/5/14. The homeowner spoke with Phil Doremus, noting that he had spread bad feed hay on the ground, but Brian Roach of Aquarion maintains that it is, instead, excessive barn waste. Phillip Doremus will follow up with the property owners.
- K. DWI #14-476, 24 Mills Lane—Katherine Kuhn. Determination of Wetland Impact—property owner plans to demolish existing house on property and build a new house. A letter dated June 3, 2014 from Ochman Associates confirmed to the Commission that the proposed projects do not lie within the regulated areas on either side of the property. With this in mind, a memo will be sent to the Planning and Zoning Department, stating that the Inland Wetlands Commission has no comment, citing the findings noted above.

NOTE: Phil Doremus, WEO is in the process of visiting the properties above to assess their current status.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion re mission statement for Conservation Department for Town web page.
The Members briefly discussed this item, and noted that the mission statement can be found in the Town's Annual Report, and reads as follows:

Easton's Conservation Commission acts as the Town's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, as well as the Conservation Commission. As the Inland Wetlands Agency, it enforces the provisions of the State of Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act. In this capacity, it reviews applications for regulated activities, conducts site visits, and if appropriate, holds public hearings prior to approving or denying a permit request.

The Conservation Commission is responsible for maintaining town-owned land designated as "Open Space" and also for planning future open space acquisitions. To that effect, it works closely with developers and conservation groups, recommending to the Planning and Zoning Commission specific areas to be acquired by the Town or otherwise protected, which are in line with the Town's Open Space Plan.

5. REVIEW FOR REPORT TO PLANNING & ZONING:

- A. Request for comment re DWI #14-476 re Mills Lane
Please see Item "K" under "3. Old Business".

6. CONSERVATION PROJECTS:

Roy Gosse noted the completion of drainage work at Paine Open Space as well as the mowing of two fields at Paine Open Space prior to fiscal year end.

7. CORRESPONDENCE: n/a

8. OPEN-SPACE ISSUES: (Please see Item "6." "Conservation Projects" above)

- A. Completion of drainage work at Paine Open Space
- B. Mowing of two fields at Paine Open Space

9. WEO COMMUNICATIONS:

10. SITE WALKS: #14-477, 12 The Circle

11. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING:

- A. Steve Edwards made a motion to accept the May 27, 2014 Minutes as submitted, and Dori Wollen seconded. The vote was unanimous; motion carried.

12. MISCELLANEOUS: n/a

13. ADJOURNMENT:

- A. Dori Wollen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:59 p.m., and Cathy Alfandre seconded. The vote was unanimous; motion carried.

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Secretary, Easton Conservation Commission

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