



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

225 Center Road - Easton, Connecticut 06612

MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION EASTON TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM A

Tuesday March 12th, 2019 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Dori Wollen, Chair; Steve Corti, Vivian Hardison, Elliot Leonard.

Absent: Cathy Alfandre, Sarah Cwikla, Steve Hume, Steve Montgomery (alternate)

Meeting called to order at 7:36 p.m. (Steve Corti arrived at 7:40 p.m.) (Vivian Hardison left at 8:32)

1. INLAND/WETLAND APPLICATIONS: INLAND/WETLAND APPLICATIONS:

a.) #19-544— received 02/26/2019 + 65 days = 05/02/2019 - **42 Sturbridge Road**— Jeffrey and Kathryn Benedetti - replace failed septic system. Mark Ochman of Ochman Associates appeared on behalf of the homeowners. Members of the Commission completed a site walk. He stated that the when property changed hands the septic system was inspected and found to be in failure. When questioned about the benefits of pumping out the system, he stated that while the pumping would empty the tank, it would not empty the whole system and would likely refill within a couple of days. Mr. Ochman stated the new tank will be waterproofed and level. The old tank will be pumped out, left in place and either crushed or filled with sand.

Vivian Hardison moved to approve application # 19-544 with standard stipulations, Steve Corti seconded the motion. **VOTE: Application #19-544 42 Sturbridge Road was approved by unanimous voice vote.**

b.) #19-545 **Town of Easton-Paine Open Space- Carriage Drive Entrance** —received 02/26/2019 + 65 days = 05/02/2019. Member Steve Corti presented the proposed maintenance at the Carriage Drive entrance. He has asked DPW to mark the pathway with pins to ensure that any work carried out is on Town's right of way to the Paine property. Mr. Corti described the pathway as being very overgrown with brush and some invasive species. The pathway needs to be cleared and regraded, and built up with suitable fill. He stated that the pitch of the path causes people using this entrance to trespass on the neighbor's property. Mr. Corti has been in contact with two potential bidders to see if they wish to bid on this project. The Commission noted that it would be good to check the kiosk for needed repairs.

c.) # **19-546** – received 02/26/2019 + 65 days = 05/02/2019-**105 Asmara Way-BALP LLC**. Warren Cartmell of Natural Designs appeared on behalf of the homeowner. Members of the Commission completed a site walk. When questioned, Mr. Cartmell stated that the erosion since late summer of 2018 was 5 ½ feet. He was asked if he had considered alternatives to his plan such as a retaining wall or placing rip rap with packaging of gabions. The Commissioners expressed concern that the strength of the current in the stream is such that doing a repair without an engineer would result in failure of the repair project. Mr. Cartmel was advised that the Commission is not able to design the project. He stated that he will speak to the homeowner about other options

for this project.

2 AS OF RIGHT DETERMINATION REQUESTS -none

3 SITE WALKS:

4 UNFINISHED 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 at 740 Stepney Road--Neunteufel and VonKuthy, issued 7/20/05

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

E. V#11-158, Notice of Violation at 580 Sport Hill Road--Austin Ganim, issued 5/24/11

F. Amended Wetlands Permit #10-389, 288 Maple Road—4-lot subdivision, property owner: Vincenzo Toscano. Chad Osterberg of Chad Landscapes appeared on behalf of Mr. Toscano. He had submitted DEEP form #IWRD-DSGP-014 "Notice to Municipality". He discussed the proposed maintenance activities at the Big Lake Dam. Steve Corti agreed to meet at the dam to view the proposed work.

G. V#16-175, Notice of Violation at 90 Honeysuckle Hill Lane—Wanda M. Popescu, issued 7/5/16. The Commission noted that the permit is due to expire in two days.

H. Warning: 5 Wimbledon Lane – Owner Christian Bujdud – Correspondence was received from Mr. Bujdud showing the requested information supplied by his soil scientist.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

7. REVIEW FOR REPORT TO PLANNING AND ZONING: none

8. CONSERVATION PROJECTS: none

9. OPEN - SPACE ISSUES:

10. WEO COMMUNICATIONS: ongoing

11. CORRESPONDANCE: Connecticut Pond Services DEEP application for Aquatic pesticide permit (735 Sport Hill Road) was duly noted.

12. MISCELLANEOUS: "Letter to New Homeowners" policy. The secretary showed members the "letter to new homeowners" to members which had at one time been mailed to new resident who had wetlands on their property. This practice had stopped several years ago. The members felt that (a) it is an appropriate notification to new owners (as identified by the Assessors reports) of the responsibility of an owner of property with wetlands and (b) the practice should be resumed.

13. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING: As Ms. Hardison had left at 8:32; there was no quorum present to act upon the minutes.

14. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Submitted by Frances M. Daly
Secretary, Easton Conservation Commission