



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

225 Center Road - Easton, Connecticut 06612

**MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM AND IN PERSON
CONFERENCE ROOM "A" TOWN HALL
April 13, 2021 7:30 p.m.**

PRESENT IN PERSON: Dori Wollen, Chair, Vivian Hardison, Dave Logie, Marie Corti
(Alternate-Arrived 8:30 p.m. Did not vote)

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Cathy Alfandre; Sarah Cwikla, Elliot Leonard, Steve Montgomery.

Members of the public present via zoom: John Fallon, Esq., Phil Tiso, Manny Silva, Tony Miodonka. Member of the public present in person: Michael Czernowski.

Chair Dori Wollen called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

1.) #21-583-40 Harvester Road-MG Easton Company (Mountain Grove Cemetery)

Received 3/9/2021 + 65 days = 5/13/2021. Relocate a gravel driveway and install a curtain drain. Attorney John Fallon, Phil Tiso and Manny Silva of Rose Tiso and Company appeared on behalf of this application. There were several questions about the placement of the catch basin in the gravel driveway. Concerns were raised about the ability of the catch basin to withstand cars and trucks driving on it, and if pedestrians could walk over it safely. Messrs. Tiso and Silva stated that the catch basin was engineered to be sufficiently strong enough to support the weight of an 8 to 20 wheel vehicle and that it will have a special grate to protect pedestrian foot traffic. Mr. Fallon stated that pedestrians would most likely remain on the grass and so should not be near the catch basin. Several members noted debris such as plastic flowers in the wetland area, as well as people walking dogs. Attorney Fallon stated that the debris is to be removed during the annual spring cleanup. A question was raised about the possibility of erecting a fence to protect the wetlands. Mr. Fallon said that the Cemetery wished to maintain its pastoral setting and so would prefer not to install a fence. Chair Wollen advised that the fee for this project is \$125 with a 200% surcharge for the After the Fact application.

MOTION: Cathy Alfandre moved to **APPROVE** application **#21-583, 40 Harvester Road** with standard stipulations and as shown on the site plan dated 2/6/2020. Vivian Hardison seconded the motion. It was stipulated that the warning would not be removed until the work is completed.

VOTE: **#21-583** was approved by unanimous voice vote.

2.)# 21-586-56 Northwood Drive- Miodonka, Tony. Received 4/13/2021+65 days=6/17/2021.

Removal of 20-30 ash and pine trees. Tony Miodonka appeared on his own behalf via ZOOM.

He stated that there was a small stand of trees on his property which were either already dead or were dying. He had a contractor start to remove some of the trees when the Wetlands Enforcement Officer told him to stop and file a wetlands permit application. There were several questions about how close the trees were to the wetlands.

Chair Wollen asked Mr. Miodonka to mark the area where the trees are as well as the wetlands.

3.) #21-587 398 Judd Road-Czesnowski, Michael (owner of record: Bruce and Anita Holzberg). Received 4/13/2021 + 65 days = 6/17/2021. Construct 12' driveway, replace existing 12" pipe with 18" pipe to reach proposed 4 bedroom house outside of 100 foot setback.

Mr. Czesnowski appeared on behalf of this application. He explained that this lot had been lot 3 of the Poindexter subdivision, and that the driveway construction had previously been approved in 1996 and in 2004. Both time the approval lapsed. He discussed his planned erosion control.

Chair Wollen asked him to flag the wetlands 100 foot line as well as the proposed driveway.

4.) SITE WALKS: 56 Northwood Drive, 398 Judd Road

5.) 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—"68 Sport Hill Parkway, LLC"-Michael Newman, issued 12/1/08

D. Cease and Remediate order for 68 Sport Hill Parkway—"68 Sport Hill Parkway, LLC"-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.

G. Warning re: activities within 100 feet of wetlands- The MG Easton Company, Harvester Road, Easton CT 06612 issued 10/10/2019. The Commission approved application #21-583, however, it left the warning in place until such time that all construction is completed satisfactorily.

H. V#20-573, Notice of Violation at 36 Kachele Street---Remigio Melo Jr., issued 9/24/2020, Cease and Desist order. The Commission approved application #20-574, however, it left the violation in place until such time that all construction is completed satisfactorily.

K.) V#21-584 Notice of Violation at 1074 Black Rock Road- Trevor A. Smith, issued 3/9/2021, Cease and Desist order.

6.) NEW BUSINESS: Chair Wollen introduced the new alternate Commissioner Maria Corti.

7.) REVIEW FOR REPORT TO PLANNING AND ZONING: Request for Determination of Wetland Impact (SP-19-01) Re: Easton Racquet Club Court Expansion. As application 321-582 had been approved at the Commission meeting of March 23, 2021 P&Z was sent a memo including the letter of approval.

8.) CONSERVATION PROJECTS:

9.) OPEN - SPACE ISSUES: Chair Wollen reported that had a discussion with Steve Corti. He said that Public Works had completed the cleanup at Paine and that it looks good. Chair Wollen stated that Public Works had expended in excess of 265 man hours in cleaning up Paine. The Chair stated she has asked for Parks and recreation to schedule 2 times a year to clean up the smaller and narrower trails at Paine but has had no response.

10.) WEO COMMUNICATIONS:

11.) CORRESPONDENCE DEEP: First Selectman Bindleglass forwarded an email from DEEP asking to complete a survey. Chair Wollen stated she would forward this to the Commissioners.

12.) MISCELLANEOUS: Chair Wollen advised she has been trying to follow up on the release of funds to purchase the development rights for the Al Barney farm. Member Cathy Alfandre volunteered to find out what has happened.

Chair Wollen discussed possible projects to utilize money in the budget before the end of the fiscal year.

13.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS. MOTION: Vivian Hardison moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 2021. Elliot Leonard seconded. **VOTE:** The minutes from the March 23, 2021 meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote.

14.) ADJOURNMENT: MOTION Vivian Hardison moved to adjourn the meeting. Cathy Alfandre seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Approved by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Submitted by Frances M. Daly