



CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF EASTON CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

EASTON TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM A

Tuesday July 24th, 2018 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Dori Wollen, Chair; Catherine Alfandre, Steve Corti, Elliot Leonard, Vivian Hardison, Steve Montgomery

ABSENT: Steve Hume, Sarah Cwilka

ALTERNATE: Steven Montgomery was appointed to vote for Sarah Cwilka

1. Meeting called to order at 7:32 p.m.

2. **INLAND/WETLAND APPLICATIONS:** **I/W #18-537** – **173 North Street** – Kevin Wade – Construct two ponds within wetland areas and a house – received 3/27/2018 + 65 days + 65 days = 8/4/2018. Kevin Wade appeared on his own behalf. Mr. Wade presented copies of a proposal drafted by his attorney. Chair Dori Wollen stated that she wanted to make it clear to Mr. Wade that the Commission accepts his reluctance to grant a conservation easement. Further, she stated that the Commission has yet to receive an environmental report showing the net benefits of the creation of the two ponds versus leaving the area untouched. Elliot Leonard stated that his inclination was to deny the application without prejudice so that Mr. Wade could obtain this information and reapply. Cathy Alfandre asked if this application were denied would there be another application fee required of Mr. Wade. Chair Wollen stated that any new proposals Mr. Wade presented with a reapplication could be considered as an amendment to the present application, but reminded him that the Commissioners want to see a report from a soil scientist/hydrogeologist. Elliot Leonard reiterated that the report should show the effect of the proposed ponds construction on downstream properties. He further stated that if Mr. Wade reapplies, he should have an expert appear. Steve Corti stated he had hoped that Mr. Edwards would appear because of questions regarding the runoff pipes under the driveway which appear to be 30 to 40 years old. Elliot Leonard moved to deny the application without prejudice, seconded by Steve Corti. **VOTE:** Application # 18-537 was denied without prejudice by unanimous voice vote.

I/W #18-538 – **718 Sport Hill Road** – Daniel F. Witkins – Add new deck to rear of house – received 7/10/2018 + 65=9/13/2018. No one appeared on behalf of this application. The commissioners did walk the site and were able to confirm that the application did not present any negative effects on the regulated area. Cathy Alfandre moved to approve with standard conditions, seconded by Steve Corti. **VOTE:** Application #18-538 was approved by unanimous voice vote.

I/W # 18-539 – **EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY-691 Morehouse Road.** – Build addition on west side of building to expand childrens room – Received 7/24/2018 + 65 days = 9/27/2018. Marco Constantini of Silver/Petrucelli Architects presented. He stated that he had brought updated drawings with new information based upon a discussion with Phil Doremus. Steve Edwards of the Library Building Committee appeared to clarify questions raised by the Commission members. Linda Dollard, Library Board Member read a statement in support of the project. Chester Burley, President of the Historical Society questioned the necessity of the intrusion into the Historical Society office caused by the proposed construction.

Steve Corti asked how wide the proposed sidewalk would be, and if the rear parking lot would be repaired. Mr. Edwards noted that the original bio swale was built to deal with the runoff of the rear parking lot and has become overgrown and is no longer effective. Cathy Alfandre asked for clarification of the wetlands shown on the plan. Steve Corti asked where the construction materials would be staged. Mr. Constantini said they would be staged in the rear parking and a silt fence would be constructed to protect the wetlands. Steve Corti asked if there would be free standing lighting and was answered that the plan is to have it wall mounted. Cathy Alfandre asked if there would be plantings around the pond. Steve Corti asked if there would be an entrance door to the childrens room. The answer was that the door is to be an emergency exit only.

3. AS OF RIGHT DETERMINATION REQUESTS - none

4. SITE WALKS: 691 Morehouse Road –Easton Public Library

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--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.

G. V#15-170, Notice of Violation at 80 Redding Road—Arvid A. Brandstrom, issued 10/21/

H. V#16-175, Notice of Violation at 90 Honeysuckle Hill Lane—Wanda M. Popescu, issued 7/5/16. Another letter was sent to the homeowner.

I. V#16-519 –355 Sport Hill Road - Sherwood Farm, issued 12/29/16

J. Warning: 5 Wimbledon Lane – Owner Christian Bujdud – Dori Wollen sent a letter to the homeowner asking for an update.

6. NEW BUSINESS: none

7. REVIEW FOR REPORT TO PLANNING AND ZONING: none

8. CONSERVATION PROJECTS: none

9. OPEN-SPACE ISSUES: Steve Corti reported that he had contacted 5 fence companies for price quotes, and the least expensive was \$12,000. Alternatives will be pursued.

10. WEO COMMUNICATIONS: none

11. CORRESPONDENCE: Dori Wollen received an email from the Aspetuck Land Trust which is working with UCONN to rehabilitate the greenbelt corridor. They asked if their intern would be able to present information to the Commission. Upon contact, she will be invited to the next meeting.

12. MISCELLANEOUS: The First Selectman has nominated Vivian Hardison to serve on the Conservancy Organization of the Merritt Parkway.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

14. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING:

A motion to approve the minutes of July 10th, 2018 was made by Elliot Leonard and seconded by Cathy Alfandre.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. was made by Steve Corti and seconded by Vivian Hardison.

FILED BY Frances M. Daly
Secretary, Easton Conservation Commission