



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

225 Center Road - Easton, Connecticut 06612

**MINUTES FOR THE TOWN OF EASTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
EASTON TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM A
Tuesday October 23rd, 2018 7:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Dori Wollen, Chair; Catherine Alfandre, Steve Corti, Steve Hume, Vivian Hardison, Steven Montgomery (alternate). Steven Montgomery voted for Elliot Leonard.

ABSENT: Sarah Cwikla, Elliot Leonard

1. Meeting called to order at 7:31 p.m.

2. INLAND/WETLAND APPLICATIONS:

I/W #17-543 – received 10/09/18+ 65 days = 12/13/2018 - **102 Gate Ridge Road** - Michele Betzig - after the fact repair/replace existing drainpipes application. Place a 10 x12 prefab shed on property. No one appeared for this application. The commissioners requested that the homeowners be asked to come into the next meeting as a great deal of disturbance on the property was noticeable, including the location of the silt fence. The commissioners also requested that the homeowners submit a new plot plan showing the drainage pipes, the size of the pipes and where they drain to.

During the discussion of 102 Gate Ridge, a member of the public appeared and asked to make comments about a different property. She produced a homemade video of her property taken during and after the Sept. 25, 2018 rainstorm and asked the Commission to view. Upon watching this video, despite expressions of concern voiced by several individual commissioners, it was noted that as the Inland Wetlands Agency it is not within the Commissions purview to address the issue of damage to her property.

AS OF RIGHT DETERMINATION REQUESTS -none

3. SITE WALKS: 102 Gate Ridge Road

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:

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Vincenzo Toscano.

G. V#15-170, Notice of Violation at 80 Redding Road—Arvid A. Brandstrom, issued 10/21/15 - A letter was received from the soil scientist indicating that the majority of the wetland buffer restoration has been completed. WEO Phil Doremus was visited the site and stated that he observed the majority of the work had been completed.

Cathy Alfandre moved to lift the violation, seconded by Steve Hume. Approved with 5 in favor and one abstention (Hardison). Violation lifted.

H. V#16-175, Notice of Violation at 90 Honeysuckle Hill Lane—Wanda M. Popescu, issued 7/5/16. Mr. Popescu appeared and stated he had not received a letter from the Commission regarding the size of the boulders he has been asked to place around the wetlands area. The Chair stated that the Commissioners have determined that a boulder may be described as being at least 18 feet by 2 feet by 2 feet, and placed at a distance of 5 to 6 feet apart. Boulders of this size may be observed at the Paine Open Space. Mr. Popescu asked if there was a state statute defining a boulder, and how many other conservation easements in town have the requirement of having to be marked by boulders. The Chair stated that the purpose of placing boulders to define a protected area is to prevent incursions into the wetlands. Mr. Popescu tried to initiate a discussion about his garden. The Commission reminded him that the Town of Easton's Wetlands Regulations require a 100 foot set back from the edge of wetlands. Mr. Popescu stated that he is scheduled to have surgery, and does not know when he can place the boulders. The Chair said he will be sent a letter delineating the minimum size of a boulder or a shrub which may be used to mark off wetlands.

I. V#16-519 –355 Sport Hill Road - Sherwood Farm, issued 12/29/16. Phil Doremus, WEO visited and found the disturbance north of the barn was caused by cattle being kept in a paddock in that area. Cathy Alfandre moved to lift the violation, seconded by Steve Hume. Approved by unanimous voice vote. Violation lifted.

J. Warning: 5 Wimbledon Lane – Owner Christian Bujdud – Dori Wollen will send another letter.

6. NEW BUSINESS: Steve Hume asked if there could be an amendment to the Wetlands regulations describing the dimensions of boulders and or shrubs or split rail fences to be used in marking wetlands. Dori Wollen said the State has not yet finished their review of the proposed changes to its regulations which are the basis of the Towns regulations. Steve Montgomery asked to have agendas and minutes e-mailed to the commissioners in advance of regularly scheduled meetings.

7. REVIEW FOR REPORT TO PLANNING AND ZONING: request of comments re: the extension of the Easton Public Library. The comments are to include removal of the trash bin, the trailer, the police car, the shed from the parking lot and repairing and/or replacing the wooden fence. Since this entire area is in a regulated area, seepage from every item mentioned must be eliminated.

8. CONSERVATION PROJECTS: none

9. OPEN - SPACE ISSUES

10. WEO COMMUNICATIONS: ongoing

11. CORRESPONDENCE:

12. MISCELLANEOUS: The commission noted that the Farmer case had been mentioned in the Planning and Zoning Quarterly Newsletter.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: none

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14. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING: A motion to approve the minutes of September 25th, 2018 was made by Cathy Alfandre and seconded by Steve Hume. Vivian Hardison abstained. Motion carried with five in favor, one abstention. A motion to approve the minutes of October 9th, 2018 was made by Cathy Alfandre and seconded by Steve Hume. Motion carried with unanimous voice vote.

15. ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Catherine Alfandre and seconded by Vivian Hardison at 8:43p.m.

Submitted by Frances M. Daly
Secretary, Easton Conservation Commission