

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Wednesday, August 8, 2012
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 1
Minutes of Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Falk von Plachecki, Chairman; Kurt Frantzen (arrived at 7:09 p.m.); Moe Epstein, and Sue Bruening; Alternate: Andrew George; Jim Ford, Board of Selectmen Liaison Staff: Wetlands Enforcement Officer: Jay Gigliotti; and Clerk: Gail Therian;

MEMBERS ABSENT Darrell York: and Alternate Erika Fuery

A. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman von Plachecki called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. A. George was seated as a voting member.

B ADDITIONS TO AGENDA -

J. Gigliotti asked the Commission to add under "Item F, New Applications" – "A. W2012-2951, Nancy Wasniewski, 139 Westchester Road."

So moved, by M. Epstein, seconded by S. Bruening to add under "Item F, New Applications" – "A. W2012-295, Nancy Wasniewski, 139 Westchester Road. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2012

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by A. George to approve the Minutes of the July 11, 2012 meeting as presented **Motion carried unanimously.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Chairman von Plachecki welcomed the two students from the Bacon Academy Civics' class to the meeting.

K. Frantzen arrived at the meeting.

E. PENDING APPLICATIONS -

- A. **W2012-2948**- 203 Amston Rd, Steve Fedus, Assessor's Map 21 Lot # 3, Construction of 14 new housing units, parking and storm water facilities within upland review area. No Direct wetland Impacts. DRD 8.17.12

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that he had received an email dated August 8, 2012 from Mark A. Reynolds, PE, representing the applicant, granting an extension of 35 days for this application to be decided.

Mark Reynolds, PE, representing the applicant, said that he presented this application to the Planning and Zoning Commission last month for a Preliminary review. The Commission is not in favor of the proposed two entrances. He is in the processing of revising the plans to eliminate one of the entrances.

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by K. Frantzen to accept the letter granting a 35 day extension and to table W2012-2948. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. **W2012-2950**- Arthur Clauson, 483 New London Road, Assessor Map #2-8 Lot #44-1, Dredging of Existing Pond to develop water source for proposed nursery, Seeking Agricultural Exemption for Agricultural activities, direct wetland impacts and temporary URA disturbance. Plans prepared by Reynolds Engineering services, LLC, dated 6/29/12.

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that this application is for the dredging of an existing pond to develop a water source for a proposed nursery. The applicant is requesting the Agricultural Exemption for this activity under Section 4 of the Colchester Conservation Commission Regulations. He showed the location of the pond and the area affected by this work using the map and pictures. The applicant plans to create an area to plant vegetables and use the water from the pond for irrigating this area. There is an existing stone crossing which will be used for the machines to access the area.

Mark Reynolds, PE, representing the applicant, said that the pond is approximately 1500 square feet and six (6) feet deep.

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NANCY ABRAY
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Margaret Bray

He explained the proposed access to the area and the proposed erosion and sediment controls. Discussion followed regarding the ecological impacts, alternatives to dredging the pond, and the dewatering activities.

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by S. Bruening to grant the Agricultural Exemption to W2012-2950.

Discussion followed regarding outstanding questions listed on J. Gigliotti's memo dated July 30, 2012. Chairman von Plachecki reviewed all the questions and the Commission's consensus was that the questions had been answered by the applicant's representative.

Vote was taken: **Abstentions:** K. Frantzen All others in favor **Motion carried.**

F. NEW APPLICATIONS

A. W2012-295, Nancy Wasniewski, 139 Westchester Road

Chairman von Plachecki recused himself. K. Frantzen, Vice Chairman took his place as Chairman.

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that this was a new application for repair of the sluice way at 139 Westchester Road which was received on Friday, August 3, 2012. He told the Commission that staff did not believe there would be a quorum at this meeting; so therefore, he had advised the applicant that the application would not be heard at this meeting. He suggested that this item be accepted and tabled to the next meeting.

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by S. Bruening to accept W2012-295 and to table it for statutory requirements. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman von Plachecki returned as Chairman.

G. NEW BUSINESS - None

H. OLD BUSINESS - None

I. ENFORCEMENTS -

J. Gigliotti updated the Commission on the previous enforcement action at 488 Parum Road by showing pictures of the work being completed on the site.

J. Gigliotti showed pictures of the Darling Gravel Operation on Westchester Road to update on the Commission on the work being done at this site.

J. CONSERVATION - None

K. CORRESPONDENCE -

J. Gigliotti distributed copies of "The Habitat" to Commission members.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by A. George to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Gail N. Therian, Clerk