

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Wednesday, September 12, 2012
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 1
Minutes of Meeting
(Ammended)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Falk von Plachecki, Chairman; Kurt Frantzen, Vice Chairman; Moe Epstein, and Sue Bruening; Alternate: Andrew George; Alternate Erika Fuery, Jim Ford, Board of Selectmen Liaison Staff: Wetlands Enforcement Officer: Jay Gigliotti; and Clerk: Gail Therian;

MEMBERS ABSENT Darrell York: and

A. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman von Plachecki called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A. George was seated as a voting member.

B ADDITIONS TO AGENDA -

J. Gigliotti asked the Commission to add, under "Item G, New Business" – "A. Agricultural Exemption Application", to the Agenda.

So moved, by K. Frantzen, seconded by E. Fuery to add under "Item G, New Business" – "A. Agricultural Exemption Application" **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

Motion by K. Furtzen, seconded by A. George to approve the Minutes of the August 8th, 2012 meeting as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

F. PENDING APPLICATIONS

- A. W2012-2948**- 203 Amston Rd, Steve Fedus, Assessor's Map 21 Lot # 3, Construction of 14 new housing units, parking and stormwater facilities within upland review area. No Direct wetland Impacts. *DRD 8.17.12 +35 day ext.*

Chairman von Plachecki explained to the Commission that a 35 Day extension had been granted to the Applicant last month. The applicant requested the extension because it appeared that preliminary discussions with the Planning and Zoning Commission would necessitate significant revisions to the plans.

J. Gigliotti revisited the power point from the original application submission. He explained to the commission that the applicant has had multiple discussions with staff concerning the access requirements. It was very likely that the applicant would have to change the plans significantly to comply with these requirements. The plans submitted with the application would most certainly be revised.

J. Gigliotti explained that he had not received any revised plans, or had not heard from the applicant. He also had not received reviews from the Town Engineer. The proposed site drainage was unique and certainly could potentially affect the wetlands, pond or watercourse around the property. The 35-day extension would expire before the next meeting, so the commission had to either make a decision or request an extension. Discussion followed regarding what type of action

Motion by K.Frantzen, seconded by E. Fury to deny without prejudice, application # W2012-295 due to lack of information. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. W2012-2951**- Nancy Wasniewski, 139 Westchester Rd, Assessors Map # 6-12 Lot# 14, Repair of worn forebay wall, application proposes work within the Jeremy River. *DRD 11.16.12*

Chairman von Plachecki recused himself for this application. Vice Chairman Frantzen took over the chairman duties.

J. Gigliotti introduced the application by presenting four slides on a power point. The slides highlighted the location of the application and Mr. Gigliotti explained how the water in the Jeremy River flows through the site.

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NANCY A. BRAY
TOWN CLERK
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David Wasniewski, representing his mother, the applicant Nancy Wasniewski, explained the application to the commission. Mr. Wasniewski had supplied the commission with a report from his engineer Mr. Nash. The report described the work being proposed and Mr. Wasniewski detailed the procedure to the Commission.

The repair would necessitate the river to be diverted away from sluiceway and over the dam by placing pre-cast concrete blocks in the river nearest the sluiceway. A valve will be installed near the bottom of the pre-cast block wall that will allow the mill pond to be drained for research or future repairs. The block wall shall be wrapped with a filter fabric that will trap sediment but allow water to pass through. A large size stone, similar to rip rap, shall be installed behind the block wall that will prevent erosion and the wall from moving due to periods of high flow. Vice Chairman Frantzen asked how Mr. Wasniewski planned to access the forebay, where his staging area was and what type of machinery the repair would require. Mr. Wasniewski showed the commission, on the power point slide showing the site plan, the area of his access. He proposes to drive his machinery around the rear end of the mill building, directly before the paper mill bridge, around the edge of the river until he reaches the forebay. His staging area would be located on the mill side of Paper Mill Rd towards the rear of the building. Mr. Wasniewski also explained that the repair would require a machine that has a long reach, as to allow him to clean out the inlet to the forebay. He also explained to the Commission that he has plans to stabilize the disturbed area with a type of grass seed that grows well in the fall. If the repair was not completed until a time of year when vegetation could be established, then an erosion blanket would be installed in any area that was disturbed. Discussion followed concerning the length of time associated with the repair, high flows and emergency plans.

Vice Chairman Frantzen asked J. Gigliotti if he had anything else that he would like to add. Mr. Gigliotti stated that he did not however, he felt the Commission should take a minute to read his memo with his comments and also highlighting several issues Mr. Steve Gephard of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, who has been involved with the site and the family for some time, sent had concerning the repair. Vice Chairman Frantzen asked the commission to take several minutes read the memo.

S. Bruening asked Mr. Wasniewski asked if his engineer could certify that periods of high flows would not cause damage or issues with the repair. Mr. Wasniewski stated that he will speak with Mr. Nash.

Motion made by A. George seconded by S. Bruening, to approve W2012-2951, with the conditions that Mr. Wasniewski submit a written summary of the repair that addresses the issues raised by the commission and the following as separate written documents:

- A. Schedule of Equipment & Materials
- B. Written Emergency Plan for Spills, Storms or Accidents
- C. Written Sequence of Construction Schedule
- D. Written Commitment to Notify & Discuss of staff for Commencement, Completion, Issues or Concerns and all phases of the Repair & Construction.

G. NEW APPLICATIONS-

- A. **W2012-2952-** Steve Ostroski, Foxridge & Pickerel Lake Rd, Assessor's Map 3-20 Lot# 29, 2-Lot Subdivision w/ no public improvements. No URA or wetland impacts. *DRD 11.16.12*

J. Gigliotti explained that this application was for a 2 lot subdivision. There are no wetland impacts associated with the sub div and has to be tabled for 35 days.

Motion made by S. Bruening seconded by A. George to table application W2012-2952, for statutory requirements.

Chairman von Plachecki returned as Chairman.

H. NEW BUSINESS –

A. Agricultural Exemption Application- Chairman von Plachecki explained to the Commission the need for an Agricultural Exemption Application to the Conservation Commission. J. Gigliotti explained that when an applicant files for an "agricultural exemption", they fill out the same application package as a normal application. The standard "Conservation Commission Application" package has many items that are either missing or not required for an exemption application. J. Gigliotti said that a draft application would be developed for the October meeting

I. **OLD BUSINESS** – None

J. **ENFORCEMENTS** –

K. **CONSERVATION** - None

L. **CORRESPONDENCE** -

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by A. George to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Jay Gigliotti.