

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Wednesday, April 9, 2014
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 1
Minutes of Meeting

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2014 APR 11 AM 11:05
FANCY A. GRAY
TOWN ENGINEER

MEMBERS PRESENT: Falk von Plachecki, Chairman; Kurt Frantzen, Vice Chairman; Moe Epstein, and Darrell York; Alternates: Ericka Fuery and Andrew George; Staff: Wetlands Enforcement Officer: Jay Gigliotti and Gail Therian, Clerk;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Bruening

A. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman von Plachecki called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. A. George was seated as a voting member.

B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – J. Gigliotti asked that an Item A under “New Applications” – “W2014-2974 – Scotland Hardwoods – Applicant, Regional Capital Management, LLC- Property Owner, 416 Westchester Road, Assessor’s Map 4W-11 Lot #27, 40 Acres Selective Timber Harvest, x 2 stream crossings, As-of-Right Activity” be added to the agenda.

Motion by K. Frantzen, seconded by M. Epstein to amend the agenda as requested. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2014.

Motion by K. Frantzen, seconded by M. Epstein to approve the minutes of the Colchester Conservation Commission, regular meeting of March 12, 2014 as submitted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

E. PENDING APPLICATIONS

A. W2014- 2972- Reconstruction of Existing Pond, Rob Hellstrom-Applicant, Mark Fanelli-Property Owner, Property Location- 13 Rudden Lane Assessor’s Map 05-06 Lot #009-001, Application for pond reconstruction within wetlands & URA, application submitted in response to 4/3/13 Notice of Violation, made to achieve compliance with Regulations & Rescind Violation. *DRD 4/18/14*

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that since the last meeting plans have been revised to address the outstanding issues. The exact distance from the pond to the septic system has been staked out and approved by Chatham Health District. S. Tassone, Town Engineer’s comments regarding the grading on the other property has been resolved as the applicant has been given a grading easement. J. Gigliotti said he had no outstanding issues. Discussion followed regarding the time frame of the permit, the months that the work could be conducted and the need for erosion and sediment controls during the construction.

Motion by A. George, seconded by D. York to approve W2014-3972 for pond reconstruction and that the work be done within the two-year permit period; that the work be confined to the months June 1 through November 1; an As-built of the limits of the pond and the associated site improvements must be submitted when the reconstruction is completed and Erosion and Sediment controls shall remain in place until project is complete and shall be inspected on a regular basis and maintained as necessary. **Motion carried unanimously.**

F. NEW APPLICATIONS -

A. W2014-2974 – Scotland Hardwoods – Applicant, Regional Capital Management, LLC- Property Owner, 416 Westchester Road, Assessor’s Map 4W-11 Lot #27, 40 Acres Selective Timber Harvest, x 2 stream crossings, As-of-Right Activity

J. Gigliotti distributed copies of the skid trail map submitted by the applicant and explained the condition of the property. He said the property is approximately 60 acres, 40 of which will be included in the harvest. There is a CL & P power easement on the property, but will not be affected by the harvest. He said that the work will be started in early spring or early summer. Discussion followed.

Motion by D. York, seconded by K. Frantzen to recognize W2014-2974 as an As-of-Right Activity. **Motion carried unanimously.**

G. OLD BUSINESS –

A. Jordan Alley Subdivision

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that this subdivision was approved in 2006 and has since expired. Elliott Flom, owner of the property, is planning on submitting a new application for the Phase 2 of this subdivision. A modification had been granted to allow the construction of three (3) homes as Phase 1 of the subdivision. The Commission should see this application in the near future.

H. NEW BUSINESS – None

I. ENFORCEMENTS –

A. Lake Hayward Road

J. Gigliotti explained the location of this property. He showed pictures of the land and said that the land owner is Bob McGovern. Mr. McGovern had submitted a Timber Harvest Notification for a Selective Timber Harvest but has clear cut the property and now is in violation of the Wetlands Regulations and Zoning Regulations. He said that there are no direct impacts to the wetlands. A Cease and Desist order for both Zoning and Wetlands has been issued. Discussion followed and the Commission agreed that there should be no further work on the site and a permit will be required.

B. Dr. Foote Road

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that this is the site of the former Nova Electronics. The site's drainage system consists of a swale and drainage pipe that travels along the side of Dr. Foote road and ties into x2 catch basins for the Town Rd. He explained that the drainage system was developed in the 1990's and appears that it has not been maintained since it's installation. The lack of maintenance on the property has caused a large gulley and has eroded approximately 73 cubic yards of materials down towards the wetlands. The entire property is in the Aquifer Protection Area. A Notice of Violation has been issued. A Discussion followed regarding the remediation of the area. An application will be required for the remediation and this should include a drainage maintenance program.

C. Oak Farm Drive (Multiple lots)

J. Gigliotti said that there are three homes on Oak Farm Drive, #73, #89 and #125 whose entire yards have washed out during the recent storms. Sediment is running off the property and into the road and catch basins. It is beginning to undermine the sidewalks that are required to be maintained by the homeowners. Notices have been sent requiring the home owners to stabilize their lawns. He will keep them updated on this enforcement.

D. Cabin Road

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that he received a complaint regarding the lack of erosion and sediment controls on the property that Elliot Flom has begun work on located on Cabin Road. He has spoken with Mr. Flom and he will install the necessary erosion and sediment controls.

J. CONSERVATION - None

K. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Summary of Road Salt Use

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that he attended the seminar on "Road Salt Use" on Friday, March 28, 2014. He said that it was an excellent seminar and he would be happy to share the information with any interested Commission members.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by M. Epstein, seconded by K. Frantzen to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Gail N. Therian, Clerk