

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting Wednesday, June 11, 2014  
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 1  
Minutes of Meeting

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kurt Frantzen, Board of Selectmen Liaison

**A. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman von Plachecki called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. E. Fuery was seated as a voting member.

**B. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA –**

J. Gigliotti asked that under Item F “New Applications” the following be added as “Item B” - **W2014-2976** – Town of Colchester & Board of Education – 611 Norwich Avenue, Assessor’s Map 05-04 Lot 06A-000, Proposed Construction of a Pedestrian Footbridge over Sherman’s Brook, connecting open space.

Chairman von Plachecki asked that under Item H, New Business, Item C & D taken out of order and renumbered accordingly.

**So moved**, by D. York, seconded by M. Epstein. **Motion carried unanimously**

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2014.

**Motion** by D. York, seconded by M. Epstein to approve the minutes of the Colchester Conservation Commission regular meeting of April 9, 2014 as submitted. **Abstentions:** S. Bruening **All others in favor Motion carried.**

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**E. PENDING APPLICATIONS**

**F. NEW APPLICATIONS -**

- A. W2014-2975** – Trowbridge Forest Products - Applicant, Christopher & Diane Ignazio - Property Owner, 206 McDonald Road, Assessor’s Map 02-08 Lot #030-001, Selective Timber Harvest with 1 crossing of Intermittent Stream and activity within URA. As-of-Right Activity

J. Gigliotti said that a copy of the harvest plan was included in the Commissioner’s packets. He presented information about the application, stating that it was a fairly basic application for a selective timber harvest just past M & J Auto Recycling. This property abuts the Kendzoir property that currently has a selective timber harvest in progress. He explained that the skid trailer will go through the Kendzoir property and continue to the landing area located on the M & J Recycling property. The fresh cut timber will be stored at the landing area until removed by logging trucks. He said that the parcel of land is 38 acres of which around 30 acres will be harvested. He said that there is one stream crossing which will be accomplished using a portable bridge.

John Trowbridge, owner of Trowbridge Forest Products, stated that there is approximately 96,000 board feet to be harvested. Discussion followed regarding the use of the Kendzoir property and the M & J Recycling property for access to the property. The Commission asked that Trowbridge Forest Products submit a written agreement for the right to pass over these properties.

**Motion** by D. York, seconded by E. Fuery to recognize W2014-2975 as an As-of-Right Activity. Trespass arrangements will be the responsibility of Trowbridge Forest Products. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. W2014-2976** – Town of Colchester & Board of Education – 611 Norwich Avenue, Assessor’s Map 05-04 Lot 06A-000, Proposed Construction of a Pedestrian Footbridge over Sherman’s Brook, connecting open space.

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that he has been working with Joe Hage, Science teacher at Bacon Academy, to construct a pedestrian bridge over Sherman Brook that will connect Bacon Academy to the Open Space area of the White Oak subdivision. Mr. Hage uses this area for outdoor classes. He explained the construction of the bridge and said that S. Tassone, Town Engineer, had submitted a hydraulic report and an engineering study. He said that a \$437.73 check had been received from Colchester Learning Foundation as well as other contributions for the construction of the bridge.

**Motion** by D. York, seconded by S. Bruening to approve W2014-2976. **Motion carried unanimously**

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2014 JUN 12 PM 4:00  
J. Gigliotti  
T. Therian  
A. Deary

## **G. OLD BUSINESS –**

### **A. Tony's Junkyard**

J. Gigliotti updated the Commission on the progress being made for the clean-up of Tony's Junkyard. He presented before and after pictures of an area where the clean-up has been completed and other pictures of areas of the property where work is in progress. He said that he makes daily inspections of the site and he is pleased with the progress and the protection of the wetlands. He told the Commission that he will prepare a comprehensive summary report as the project progresses and will present it at a future meeting. Discussion followed.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS –**

### **A. 2014/2015 Long-Term Town Drainage Maintenance Permit**

Chairman von Plachecki said that the Commission receives a copy of the Drainage improvements associated with the Town's ongoing Long-term Road Maintenance Plan every year. It is before the Commission because in preparing for the road work, it is necessary to replace existing damaged or deteriorated storm drain pipes and catch basin structures or reconstruct existing draining ditches and install additional piping.

**Motion** by S. Bruening, seconded by M. Epstein to accept and approve the necessary drainage improvements/maintenance activity associated with the Town's Long-term Road Improvement Plan. **Motion carried unanimously**

### **B. Acceptance of Resignation Letter**

Chairman von Plachecki said that a copy of the resignation letter from Kurt Frantzen, Vice Chairman was included in the Commissioner's packets. He said that K. Frantzen has been appointed to the Board of Selectmen. No action was necessary on this item.

### **C. Discussion of Full-time Membership Appointment**

Chairman von Plachecki said that due to the resignation of K. Frantzen, there is a vacancy for a full member to the Commission. Based on past practices, an alternate member of the Commission could be appointed as a full member. In the past, the alternate member seated the longest on the Commission would be recommended to the Board of Selectmen to be appointed as a full member. Discussion followed and the Commission requested J. Gigliotti to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting that A. George be made a full member.

### **D. Nominations for Vice-Chairman**

Chairman von Plachecki asked the Commission members to consider taking the position for Vice Chairman left vacant by K. Frantzen's resignation. A vote for this position will be taken at the next meeting.

## **ENFORCEMENTS –**

### **A. Lake Hayward Road**

J. Gigliotti explained the location of this property. He said that Mr. McGovern had a permit for selective timber harvest in the Uplands Review Area but has clear cut the property and was in violation of the Wetlands Regulations and Zoning Regulations. He said that there are no direct impacts to the wetlands. Erosion and Sediment controls are now in place and a tracking pad has been installed at the access to the property. There is no further clearing is being done on the property and Mr. McGovern has been required to develop a hydraulic analysis and Erosion and Sediment Control plan.

### **B. Veccadola Drive**

J. Gigliotti said that the property in violation was a lot located in the 612 Westchester subdivision. A building permit application was submitted for a single family residence on Lot #2 on Veccadola Drive. In order for the build out to occur, fill was needed. The fill brought in to the property was of unknown origin. And contained numerous hazardous materials. This fill has been removed and he has signed off on the application for the single family residence to be built.

### **C. Tractor Supply**

J. Gigliotti said that the area proposed for an 8,000 square foot building on the Tractor Supply property had ponding water occurring adjacent to the storm water basin. The water flows over the berm and caused some erosion. The silt fence in place is protecting the road until the site is stabilized and repaired.

**J. CONSERVATION –**

**A. Colchester Land Trust Accreditation**

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that the Colchester Land Trust is in the process of obtaining a 5 year Accreditation. A. George explained the process.

**K. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. State Project No. 028-199- Route 85 Culvert Replacement**

J. Gigliotti said that the Minutes from the May 27, 2014 Public Information Meeting regarding the Route 85 Culvert Replacement project was included in their packets for their information

**B. Salmon River Watershed Partnership/ Eight Mile River Watershed**

J. Gigliotti said that he attended the Salmon River Watershed Partnership/Eight Mile River Watershed meeting held on May 28, 2014. The Partnership will be formalizing their organization and electing officers.

**C. Route 149 Paper Mill Dam**

J. Gigliotti said that the Town has received over a million dollars of grant money to demolish the paper mill and the removal of the dam. He said that this work will require a permit from the Commission. Chairman von Plachecki said that a Public Hearing should be held for this application.

**D. Construction Projects Updates**

J. Gigliotti said that the Linwood Avenue Streetscape project will start on Friday, June 13, 2014.

**E. Colchester Fish & Game**

No report was given.

**F. Mapping Projects**

J. Gigliotti said that he has almost completed the GIS mapping project for the Plan of Conservation and Development. He will present these maps to the Commission at a future meeting.

**G. Old Amston Road R.O.W.**

J. Gigliotti said that the property owners had a permit to construct an orchard in the Upland Review Area. This project required drainage in the Right of Way to be installed. Work has been completed and the orchard work has been completed.

**H. CT DEEP Commissioner Training**

J. Gigliotti said that the CT DEEP will be holding Commissioner Training on Friday, June 13, 2014 and Thursday, June 19, 2014. Anyone interested in attending should contact J. Gigliotti.

**I. SRW Newsletter**

J. Gigliotti said that the Annual Newsletter from the Salmon River Watershed Partnership was included in the Commissioner's packets.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** by M. Epstein, seconded by S. Bruening to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Gail N. Therian, Clerk