

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Wednesday, January 8, 2014
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 1
Minutes of Meeting

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sue Bruening

Chairman von Plachecki welcomed Denise Mizla, the new Board of Selectmen liaison, to the Commission.

A. Call to Order and Open Public Hearing

- A. W2013-2963-** Application to revise the Town of Colchester's Inland Wetland and Watercourse Regulations. Revisions to the regulations are the suggested Regulation and Legislation Advisories as published by the CT DEEP.

Chairman von Plachecki called to order the Continuation of the Public Hearing at 7:07p.m. He said that E. Fuery, alternate would be seated as a voting member.

Chairman von Plachecki said that the Commission is working on additional language and asked for a motion to continue the Public Hearing to the next meeting.

Motion by K. Frantzen seconded by M. Epstein to continue the Public Hearing on W2013-2963, Application to revise the Town of Colchester's Inland Wetland and Watercourse Regulations. Revisions to the regulations are the suggested Regulation and Legislation Advisories as published by the CT DEEP to the next regularly scheduled meeting. **Motion carried unanimously**

Public hearing ended at 7:08 p.m.

B. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman von Plachecki called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. E. Fuery seated as a voting member.

C. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA -

Motion by K. Frantzen, seconded by E. Fuery to add under Item L, Correspondence two items: A) Revised Wetlands Classification Standards and B) USPA's Connectivity Study. **Motion carried unanimously**

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2013

Chairman von Plachecki said that no minutes of the December 11, 2013 meeting were available at this time. These Minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

F. PENDING APPLICATIONS

- A. W2013-2966-** Estate of Barbra Standish, Usher Swamp Rd, Assessor's Map# 2-14 Lot# 7-4, Proposed 7-Lot Subdivision, No Road Construction, minimal URA Impacts and combination of Open Space & Conservation Easements. DRD 1/17/2014

M. Epstein recused himself and A. George was seated as a voting member.

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that at the last meeting he had two outstanding issues to be addressed 1) the location of the rain garden on Lot #4 located in the Upland Review Area and 2) a concern regarding the Open Space. A revised plan has been received and the rain garden has been relocated out of the Upland Review Area. The issue regarding the Open Space has been resolved with the agent, applicant, the Zoning Enforcement Officer and the Wetlands Enforcement Officer. A fee in lieu will be taken. The fee will be generated by an appraiser and reviewed by the Town Assessor. Staff has no other comments on this subdivision.

Motion by D. York, seconded by E. Fuery to approve W2013-2966 and to recommend to the Planning and Zoning Commission to accept fee in lieu for the Open Space and that the Wetlands Enforcement Officer receives a complete set of revised plans. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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- B. W2013-2965 Construction of Farm Pond for irrigation of Evergreen Trees, Mr. Richard Baldi, Property Owner, Mr. James Sipperely- Applicant, Miller Road, Assessor's Map 6-8, Lot 16.

M. Epstein recused himself and A. George was seated as a voting member.

James Sipperely highlighted the DEEP white papers regarding the Permitted Uses Statute. He submitted an aerial map by Google to show the existing conditions and said that there are no wetlands where the farm pond is proposed. He explained the location of the pond and the work that will be conducted to construct the pond. He said that the farm pond will be for the irrigation of the trees.

Richard Baldi explained the reason he is installing a farm pond as opposed to a well and the need for the farm pond. Discussion followed regarding the depth and slopes of the pond.

Motion by K. Frantzen, seconded by D. York that the Commission finds application W2013-2965 Construction of Farm Pond for irrigation of Evergreen Trees, Mr. Richard Baldi, Property Owner, Mr. James Sipperely- Applicant, Miller Road, Assessor's Map 6-8, Lot 16 that the jurisdiction ruling be granted as of right. **Motion carried unanimously**

- C. W2013-2967- Peter & Virginia Reneson, Bull Hill Road, Assessor's Map 05-19 Lot 003-000, Proposed 2-Lot subdivision, No public improvements, No URA or Wetlands Impacts. *DRD 2/14/14*

M. Epstein recused himself and A. George was seated as a voting member

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that he has no outstanding issues on this application as there are no Upland Review or Wetlands Impacts.

Motion by D. York, seconded by A. George to approve W2013-2967. **Motion carried unanimously**

- D. W2013-2968- Rodney Goldberg, Goldberg Road, Resubdivision of lots 11 & 12 located at the end of Goldberg Road, the Road has not currently been accepted. *DRD 2/14/13*

M. Epstein recused himself and A. George was seated as a voting member

Chairman von Plachecki said that there are comments from the Town Engineer that need to be addressed. He suggested this application be tabled to the next meeting for the submission of revised plans.

Motion by E. Fuery, seconded by D. York to table W2013-2968 to the next regularly scheduled meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

G. NEW APPLICATIONS

- A. W2014-2970- Gints Vitkovskis-Applicant, 63 Shailor Hill Road, Assessor's Map 05-14 Lot # 50-3, Proposed Driveway Construction associated with development of new SFR, Driveway construction shall include installation of 15" Diameter culvert pipe and activity within URA. *DRD 3.14.14*

M. Epstein recused himself and A. George was seated as a voting member

J. Gigliotti described the location of this property. He said that this application is for the driveway construction and the installation of 15" diameter culvert pipe. He explained the entrance of the driveway. The driveway and culvert pipe would be in the Upland Review Area. Discussion followed regarding the crossing of the wetlands for the driveway.

Charlie Dutch, representing the applicant, said that after a conversation with S. Tassone, Town Engineer, the pipe will be moved. He will have further information about the moving of the pipe at the next meeting.

Motion by A. George, seconded by E. Fuery to table W2014-2970 to the February meeting for more information. **Motion carried unanimously.**

H. NEW BUSINESS –

- A. Pickerel Lake Drawdown-- Status

J. Gigliotti said the draw down is still active and will start bringing it up in late March.

I. OLD BUSINESS –

A. Election of Officers

This was done at the December meeting. No action necessary.

B. 2014 Regular Meeting Schedule

The meeting schedule for 2014 has been filed. No action necessary.

M. Epstein returned as a voting member and A. George stepped down as a voting member.

J. ENFORCEMENTS –

A. 13 Rudden Lane- Development of Plan and Application

J. Gigliotti said that the flagging has been done and he hopes to have an application for the next meeting.

B. 19 Cato Corner Road

J. Gigliotti said that the homeowner had done extensive mowing around the pond and mowed down pricker bushes. He said that erosion and sediment controls have been placed around the pond. He has no other concerns about this enforcement.

K. CONSERVATION - None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Revised Wetlands Classification Standards

K. Frantzen said that this Revised Wetlands Classification Standards was 20 years in the making. It is a 90 page document and the information is on the website.

B. USPA's Connectivity Study.

K. Frantzen explained the importance this study regarding this study regarding the jurisdiction of water courses and wetlands. This will have a huge impact on Wetlands Regulations in the future.

J. Gigliotti explained the work that was performed by the Town at Halls Hill Road.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by K. Frantzen, seconded by M. Epstein to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Transcribed by Gail N. Therian