CONSERVATION AND INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

TOWN OF DEEP RIVER, CONNECTICUT

Town Hall 174 Main Street Deep River, Connecticut 06417

A *regular meeting* of the *Deep River Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission* held on Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Deep River Town Hall was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Miezejeski. Members present: Susan Board, Carmela Balducci, Carol Libby, Alan Miezejeski, Alternate Michael Tomlinson and Alternate/WEO Mark Reyher. Absent: George Atwood, Ron Larsen, and John Szymanski. Also present: Nancy Howard, Robert Rocks, Tom Worthley, and William O'Hearn. Chairman seated Alternate Tomlinson for an absent member.

A motion was made by Carol Libby and seconded by Susan Board to alter the agenda to address Conservation matters at this time. (5-0) Voted Unanimously.

Conservation/Canfield Woods: Robert Rocks from the DEP Division of Forestry and Tom Worthley from the UCONN Extension Center gave a presentation on creation of a Stewardship Management Plan. The Commission asked that they attend to assist the Commission with a possible management plan for Canfield Woods. A Stewardship Management Plan may include a vision statement; establish goals that are clear, direct and attainable; define objectives to help achieve goals; delineate action steps needed to reach objective; include bench marks to assess progress; and may be modified and updated as needed to incorporate new information. Creation of a plan is taking responsibility for the present and future well being of the open space and meeting the community goals. The Commission will have open communication with Essex once the Commission has considered a plan. Mr. Rocks noted that some objectives for the written plan are (a) protection from development; (b) enhancing the health of the ecosystem; (c) enhancing recreational opportunities; (d) enhancing educational opportunities; (e) assessment and management of potential hazards; (f) improving wildlife habitat; (g) preserving natural beauty and Bio Diversity; (h) identifying and managing nonnative invasive plant species; and (i) production of forest products. The planning should start with collecting the available information, identifying location and access to parcel, deed restrictions, and existing maps. Mr. Rocks presented samples of maps that would be a part of the plan. An inventory should be done of the property to determine such things as vegetation, wildlife habitat, wetlands, streams, ponds, cultural features, trails, woods roads, unique geologic features, and any hazards. A written plan should include recommendations developed as part of the process as a guide. A statutory reference in the deed for the Canfield Woods property will be reviewed to establish if there are any property restrictions. Mr. Rocks and Mr. Worthley recommended that the Commission review how the Town benefits from the property and discuss and develop goals, and then they would be willing to take part in a tour of the property with the Commission and general public to discuss management possibilities.

<u>Approval of Minutes</u>: A motion was made by Michael Tomlinson and seconded by Carol Libby to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 11, 2010 as printed. (5-0) Voted Unanimously.

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William O'Hearn/Winthrop Cemetery, Winthrop Road: William O'Hearn presented a proposal for construction of a foot bridge over wetlands at the Winthrop Cemetery and removal of invasive plants. The activity is proposed as an Eagle Scout project. The proposed bridge will be 12 ft. long by 4 ft. wide. A post will be placed near the road as protection of an area that drops off. Together with the application for permit, Mr. O'Hearn submitted a petition to waive the application fee because the Eagle Scout project will result in significant public benefit. Photographs will be submitted. Mr. O'Hearn noted that the project is expected to be completed by the summer. A motion was made by Carol Libby and seconded by Carmela Balducci to accept the application by William O'Hearn with the understanding that there may be additional documentation which may be received for consideration at the next regular meeting. (5-0) Voted Unanimously. A motion was made by Alan Miezejeski and seconded by Carmela Balducci to waive the application fee for William O'Hearn as requested in accordance with Section 19.7(a) of the Regulations as the proposed Eagle Scout project will result in a substantial public benefit. (5-0) Voted Unanimously.

<u>Enforcement</u>: WEO Mark Reyher noted that he met with the owners of 39 Village Street (Map 57, Lot 5), who have agreed to remove the platform structure which will address the concerns of the neighbors.

WEO Reyher and Alan Miezejeski reported that the Town swimming pond and the adjacent ponds on Winthrop Road have had gray water. The WEO checked with Haynes Materials, who has been pumping into the quarry pond. Haynes currently has an active wetlands permit. A beaver may also have some affect on the area. The WEO and Chairman will continue to investigate the cause of the siltation.

A Preliminary Wetlands Identification Statement was completed for construction on property of Steven McLarty on Bushy Hill Road. Chairman Miezejeski noted that the Commission had previously reviewed the preliminary proposal and requested that silt fencing be installed. The WEO noted that a building permit was obtained and he will follow up on the installation of the silt fencing.

<u>Financial Report/Payment of Bills</u>: Carol Libby reviewed the status of the current budget. The following bills were received: Nancy Howard, clerical services, 11 hours; and Hartford Courant, legal advertising, \$31.68. A motion was made by Alan Miezejeski and seconded by Michael Tomlinson to approve payment of the bills as submitted. (5-0) Voted Unanimously.

Other Matters: Chairman Miezejeski suggested amending the conditions of permit approvals to notify the WEO after the E&S controls have been installed. WEO Reyher noted that applicants have been notifying him prior to the start of work and he then inspects the site after the E&S measures are in place.

A motion was made by Carol Libby and seconded by Michael Tomlinson to adjourn at 9:52 p.m. (5-0) Voted Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Howard Recording Secretary