

# 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, February 14, 2013 at the Deep River Town Hall was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Mizejeski. Members present: John Dube, Alan Mizejeski, Michael Tomlinson, and Alternate Tanner Steeves. Absent: George Atwood, Susan Board, Ron Larsen, Carol Libby. Alternate/WEO Mark Reyher. Also present: Nancy Howard, Elaine Sych, Kay Tucker, Silvia Criollo, and Edwin Criollo. Chairman Mizejeski seated Alternate Steeves for Ron Larsen.

A motion was made by Mike Tomlinson and second by Tanner Steeves to amend the agenda to consider the application by Silvia Criollo as the first item. Voted Unanimously.

### Public Business:

Silvia Criollo, 33 Main Street: An application was received from Silvia Criollo for the purpose of a one story addition to house at 33 Main Street. Edwin Criollo presented the application. The kitchen addition is to the rear of the existing two story house and will connect to the existing one story house. The existing one story house is 45 feet from the brook. The existing deck on the rear of the two story house is 52 feet from the brook. Commission members asked that the following additional information be provided for the next meeting: show location of erosion and sedimentation control measures; if there is going to be a frost wall; will there be a connection without a foundation; amount of excavation and where the material will be placed; and amount of land disturbance. A motion was made by Tanner Steeves and seconded by Mike Tomlinson to accept the application as a regulated non-significant activity. Voted Unanimously. Action on the application will be considered at the next regular meeting.

Connecticut Environmental Review Team: Elaine Sych, Coordinator of the Connecticut Environmental Review Teams (ERT) was present to discuss the ERT program. Kay Tucker, Chairman of the Essex Conservation Commission, was also present. Deep River, Essex, and the Essex Land Trust are interested in jointly sponsoring a review of the Canfield Woods/Meadow Woods property. An ERT was completed on the Canfield property in 1977 prior to the Towns obtaining the property. Ms. Sych had copies available as examples of recent ERT studies that have been completed on properties. A written ERT request form would need to be completed indicating what the Town is looking for. Ms. Sych noted that there are different specialists that would be involved with the study, depending on what is requested. Some items of interest could be trail usage, forest management, wildlife habitat, vernal pool area, educational opportunities, signage, access points, and parking. Concern was raised regarding damage from bicycles on the trails. Ms. Sych noted that the ERT may be used as a tool to garner support for something you may want to do. Forest management was discussed. Members noted that there is wind fall material that has not been cleared. Protection of endangered species is also an area of concern. Ms. Sych noted that the ERT is state funded. Tanner Steeves noted that he has started filling in the ERT request form, which will be submitted jointly by the Towns of Deep River, Essex and the Essex Land Trust. Ms. Sych noted that the ERT request form is reviewed by the Soil Conservation District board and approved by the ERT Subcommittee. A date is then set in the middle of the week with the team members and representatives of the Town. On that date, individuals would meet at the Town Hall and then proceed as a group to the site. Commission members are encouraged to take part in the process to provide personal knowledge of aspects of the property. Ms. Sych noted that current requests are being scheduled for the spring. The time frame for completion of a report depends on the availability of the team involved. Kay Tucker noted that a recent fire off Dennison Road was difficult for the Fire Department to reach. The possibility of water holes may be a consideration. Chairman Mizejeski noted that the Town has been offered a parcel known as the Pratt Read Reservoir on Route 80 and noted that an ERT might be beneficial for that site. The ERT might also be able to provide funding sources for purchase of property for open space. Kay Tucker noted that her Commission is amenable to proceeding with the joint application. Ms. Tucker noted that the Essex Conservation Commission members have hats that they wear for identification when they are working on the property. Tanner Steeves will work on completing the ERT request form.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Mike Tomlinson and seconded by John Dube to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 10, 2013 as printed. (4-0) Voted Unanimously.

Enforcement: No report.

Payment of Bills: An invoice was received from Nancy Howard, 21 hours for clerical services (2 months). A motion was made by Mike Tomlinson and seconded by John Dube to approve payment of the invoice as presented. Voted Unanimously.

Conservation/Canfield Woods: Alan Mizejeski reported that he spoke with the First Selectman regarding possible extension of the parking area at Canfield Woods. A motion was made by Tanner Steeves and seconded by Mike Tomlinson to schedule a site walk at Canfield Woods on Sunday, February 24, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss management of Canfield Woods. Voted Unanimously.

Tanner Steeves noted that the Regional Planning Agency received a grant from the State to digitize the maps for the towns in their district.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was received: (a) letter dated February 5, 2013 from Margot Burns from the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments noting that the study on "A Viewshed Model for the Lower CT River and Coastal Region" is now available.

A motion was made by Tanner Steeves and seconded by John Dube to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. (4-0) Voted Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy J. Howard*

Recording Secretary