

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

MINUTES

SPECIAL Meeting of July 28, 2014 at 7:30 pm

Conference Room #3, Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

These Minutes are Subject to Approval by the Inland Wetlands Commission

Present: Mary Curran, Craig Ferris, Anne Peters, and Sharon Salling; **Absent:** Kristen Hammar

Staff Present: Rob Sibley, Deputy Director of Planning and Land Use and Tammy Hazen, Clerk

PENDING APPLICATION

IW # 14-10 12 Dickinson Drive, Town of Newtown Public Building and Site Commission.

Application for Sandy Hook School.

Ms. Curran explained that the public hearing was closed on July 9, 2014 with no input from the public. She then asked for discussion or comments.

Ms. Peters acknowledged that a great amount of effort and energy has gone into the application and noted that the commission's role is very narrow in scope in that they look specifically at whether or not the project has adverse effects on the wetlands and watercourses. They then need to make sure that impacts are sufficiently mitigated. With little feedback from the public, she felt the presentation was at a fairly high level. She said that although the commission often receives much more technical detail during presentations, she found that when reviewing the reports and materials submitted it was clear that standards have been met and there is an appropriate amount of mitigation. She also felt the applicant presented the most feasible and prudent alternative under all facts and circumstances.

Mr. Ferris said the applicant has made significant efforts to avoid impacts to wetlands and watercourses. He acknowledged that the impact was necessary for safe access to the building, that it was minimized to the extent possible and properly mitigated by replacement and enhancement of the wetlands.

Ms. Curran agreed with Ms. Peters and Mr. Ferris's comments and said the applicant provided a comprehensive storm water management plan which allows cleaner water to flow into the wetlands. She felt the mitigation balances the impact and appreciated that the culvert will allow wildlife to pass through. She then asked for a motion.

Mr. Ferris motioned to approve the application with standard conditions, A, B, C, D, E, F, L, O, P and 1. The approved plans are Sandy Hook School, 12 Dickinson Drive, Sandy Hook, CT 06482; IW and P & Z submission set, dated June 9, 2014 with associated support documents.

Ms. Peters seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IW #14-11 KASL, LLC and IBF, LLC, 16 and 19 Robin Hill Road, Scudder Road, and 168 Sugar Street.
Application for a 23 lot Open Space Conservation Subdivision (OSCS) development.

Ms. Curran said she feels there should be a public hearing since this will be of considerable interest to the public. Ms. Curran then motioned to set a public hearing for August 27th, 2014. Mr. Ferris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Ms. Curran motioned to approve the minutes of July 9, 2014. *Changes are as follows: Under IW #14-10, 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence, remove “that” on the 2nd line. 4th paragraph, 4th sentence, remove the 2nd “and”; last sentence, change “were” to “was”; 5th paragraph, 3rd sentence, remove the first “is”; 2nd page, 3rd paragraph, change “four bays” to “fore bays”; last page, change Fragmites to Phragmites.”* Mr. Ferris seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended. Ms. Curran motioned to approve the minutes of July 23, 2014. Ms. Peters seconded the motion. Ms. Salling abstained. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Curran motioned to enter Executive Session at 7:50 pm to discuss court cases. Mr. Sibley was invited. Ms. Peters seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Ms. Peters motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:05 pm. Ms. Curran seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Peters motioned to adjourn at 8:06 pm. Ms. Salling seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Tammy Hazen