

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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TOWN HALL

238 Danbury Road

Wilton, Connecticut 06897

WILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**Wednesday, February 3, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**

PRESENT: Jackie Algon (CHAIR), Frank Simone, Colleen O'Brien, Dave Cote, Jeff Lapnow (6:45)

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director Environmental Affairs

ABSENT: Phil Murphy (not notified of intended absence)

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Ms. Algon.
- II. NEW BUSINESS

1. 2021 Liaison Schedule for Planning & Zoning Commission Meetings

The Commission was reminded that the first three months of 2021 were covered at the last meeting. Mr. Cote volunteered to be the April Liaison. Mr. Murphy was assigned May. Mr. Lapnow was assigned for June. Ms. Algon took July. Ms. O'Brien took September. Mr. Simone took October. Mr. Cote volunteered for November. Mr. Murphy was assigned December.

III. PLANNING & ZONING REFERRALS

- A. SUB#921, 183 Westport Road, LLC/O'Brien, 183 Westport Road, for a four-lot subdivision**

Mr. Conklin described the project and confirmed there are no wetlands issues as they are keeping all activities outside the regulated area. He noted they are utilizing an existing common driveway. No comments were noted.

- B. SDP#1-21, Clark Holdings, LLC, 2 Hollyhock Road, 18-unit residential housing units, under the State of Connecticut's 8-30g regulation, within an existing multi-use building**

Mr. Conklin described the project and noted it is coming over as an 8-30g for Affordable Housing. Ms. Algon asked that Mahogany is reconsidered as the siding choice as it is endangered.

IV. INLAND WETLANDS REFERRALS

- A. WET#2673(S) JAEHNIG – 17 Hidden Lake Ridge Road - proposed in-ground pool and associated site improvements with a B100a**

Mr. Conklin confirmed 4 trees are being removed and noted site constraints with

multiple wetlands on site. Ms. Algon suggested a comment asking them to consider eradicating the invasive shrubs and vines on the property noted in the report.

B. WET#2674(S) WALTERS-FRANCIQUE -129 Skunk Lane –proposed addition, swimming pool and associated improvements with a B100a

Mr. Conklin described the project and confirmed all proposed activities are within the existing lawn. There are no comments.

V. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a. Parks Reports** – Mr. Cote offered to take Bradley Park and Horseshoe Pond as his responsibilities for regular inspection.
- b. Walks & Talks** – Nothing has been scheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. O'Brien will write a newsletter article about the program.
- c. Work with other Commissions/Committees**
 - i. TREE COMMITTEE** – Ms. Algon reported that the Committee is still down one member. Donated trees are being planted. The Committee continues to develop components of a Tree Ordinance for approval by the Conservation Commission and subsequently by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Conklin noted legal will need to be involved.
 - ii. DEER COMMITTEE** – Mr. Conklin confirmed the 2020-2021 hunt season is completed and the State DEEP is compiling the data.
- d. Planning and Zoning Liaison Report** - Nothing new to report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2021 Goals & Objectives & Strategy for Invasives** – Ms. Algon asked Mr. Simone to prepare a report of Accomplishments vs. Objectives for 2020. Mr. Simone noted the eNewsletter and the Facebook page as accomplishments for 2020. Ms. O'Brien noted the goals should remain from last year as not enough was accomplished due to the pandemic.
- b. E-Newsletter Discussion** – Mr. Conklin asked for articles to be written for a Spring Newsletter. Mr. Conklin reminded each member to outreach to common organizations or church groups for e-alerts. Ms. Algon confirmed there is a Native Shrubs article from the Tree Committee to include in the next issue. Ms. Algon will write an article on Japanese Knotweed. Ms. O'Brien will write an article about Oriental Bittersweet Vine. Mr. Conklin suggested including an article describing Go Green's new initiative "Do One Thing" which Ms. O'Brien agreed to write. Mr. Cote suggested cross-promotion with Wilton Go Green and this Commission working together on social media. Ms. Algon suggested a short bio of each member and why each member wanted to volunteer to serve on the Conservation Commission.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Meeting Minutes** – Janaury 6, 2021

Mr. Simone MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2021 as drafted, SECONDED by Ms. O'Brien and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

IX. ADJOURN – Mr. Lapnow MOVED to ADJOURN the meeting at 7:51pm, SECONDED by Mr. Cote and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

Next regular meeting will be March 3, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Larkin, Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs