



MEETING MINUTES
ELECTRONIC ZOOM MEETING
December 10, 2020

PRESENT: Nick Lee, Rick Stow, Claudia Avallone, Scott Fischer, Mike Whitted

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs; Dagny Eason, Dagny's Real Estate; Harry Rocheville, McChord Engineering; Kate Throckmorton, Environmental Land Solutions, LLC; Dean Martin, Grumman Engineering

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lee called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

II. 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Fischer MOVED to APPROVE the 2021 Meeting Schedule, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 4-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and no response from Mr. Whitted due to connection issues.

III. 2021 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Stow MOVED to NOMINATE Mr. Lee for Chair, SECONDED by Mr. Whitted and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

Mr. Lee MOVED to NOMINATE Mr. Stow for Vice Chair, SECONDED by Mr. Fischer and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

Mr. Lee MOVED to NOMINATE Ms. Avallone for Secretary, SECONDED by Mr. Stow and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

IV. SHOW CAUSE HEARING

A. O'NEILL – 48 Sharp Hill Road #2 – unpermitted removal of trees, wood piles, and trench for drainage system within a regulated area

Mr. Conklin provided background on the violation. Eight trees were cut within 100 ft. of the watercourse and trenching was done around the foundation of the home.

Ms. Eason reported the neighbors stated there were no wetlands in the vicinity so they removed three trees which were dead and leaning over and into the house.

Mr. Conklin noted there is not enough space to re-plant any trees and recommended Shadblow and Native Dogwood understory instead of preferred shrubs that would soon be eaten by deer.

Mr. Fischer MOVED to UPHOLD the CEASE & DESIST for O'Neill at 48 Sharp Hill Road, and work with staff to produce a planting plan along with an Application for the next meeting on January 14, 2021, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. WET#2654(S) BEHRENS – 220 Nod Hill Road – “corrective action” to address the unpermitted clearing of trees within a regulated area

Mr. Conklin noted that the Applicant requested a continuance to allow their recently hired attorney to review the Application and respond to recent comments from the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Stow MOVED to CONTINUE the hearing, SECONDED by Mr. Fischer and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

B. WET#2663(S) DAVIS-CHEN – 105 Nod Hill Road – proposed new single-family residence with associated site improvements

Mr. Conklin confirmed the Public Hearing will be held open to allow consideration of the Dept. of Public Works comments that were not yet received.

Mr. Rocheville confirmed the site was approved for a 6-bedroom residence in 2005, but the permit has since lapsed. This proposal is for only 4 bedrooms including improvements to the driveway, drainage and on-site septic system. He noted the site has an extended regulated area with a steep slope which includes an easement to pass. The proposed stormwater management system was also reviewed.

Ms. Throckmorton reviewed the wetlands on site, and the proposed mitigation plantings. She confirmed the disturbance is reduced from the previous approval in 2005. She also addressed the Conservation Commission comments relating to ash trees and additional plantings between the driveway and Nod Hill Road.

Commissioners agreed that they want to walk the site prior to the next meeting but there are access issues. Mr. Rocheville advised that he would confirm if the property owners and neighbors would grant access.

With no further questions, the Public Hearing was continued.

V. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE REVIEWED

A. WET#2660(I) FUSCO – 90 Kent Road – proposed pool in an upland review area

Mr. Martin explained the proposal and the on-site wetland. The pool location is currently lawn area and he noted a previous permit was issued for an addition on this portion of the property that has since lapsed and was never built.

Mr. Conklin stated the area seems shallow to bedrock. He asked if the Cultec unit would be sized and work properly and suggested the homeowner consider a rain garden. Mr. Conklin also advised they should re-consider the pool equipment placement closer to the pool. The Commission also asked for the planting plan key which outlines the plantings.

With no further questions, the hearing was continued.

IV. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE ACCEPTED

A. WET#2668(I) HELLER – 8 Forge Road – proposed screened porch within a regulated area

Mr. Fischer MOVED to ACCEPT WET#2668, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

VI. APPROVED MINOR ACTIVITIES

A. WET#2665(M) WEISS – 105 Cherry Lane – proposed shed 60 ft. from wetlands

B. WET#2666(M) LUCHETTA– 36 Ambler Lane – proposed extension of existing deck and overlay pool surround with bluestone

C. WET#2667(M) CARPENTER – 42 Cavalry Hill Road – proposed installation of conduit for generator and propane tank

Mr. Conklin provided a brief description of the above Minor Permits that were issued by Staff.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE - None

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting Minutes November 12, 2020

Mr. Stow MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2020 as drafted, SECONDED by Mr. Whitted and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor

IX. ADJOURN

Ms. Avallone MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:35pm, SECONDED by Mr. Whitted and CARRIED 5-0-0 with Ms. Avallone in favor, Mr. Lee in favor, Mr. Fischer in favor, Mr. Stow in favor, and Mr. Whitted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Larkin
Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs