



MEETING MINUTES
ELECTRONIC ZOOM MEETING
March 25, 2021

PRESENT: Nick Lee (Chair), Claudia Avallone, Scott Fischer, Dora Pinou

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs; Zen Herter, Environmental Analyst; Monica Brina, Property Owner; Tim & Lindsay Geitz, Property Owners; Hermann Behrens, Property Owner; Gifford Broderick, Wilton Congregational Church; Pamela Brown, Wilton Congregational Church

ABSENT: Mike Whitted (notified of intended absence), Rick Stow (not notified of intended absence)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Lee called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

II. SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS

A. BRINA – 455 Thayer Pond Road – unpermitted removal of six trees within a regulated area

Mr. Herter explained the violation and timeframe. Mrs. Brina explained she was deceived by the real estate broker and surveyor that denied any wetlands were on site prior to purchase. She asked the Commission if her engineer can begin septic percolation tests outside of the regulated area and confirmed she will correct the violation with a “Corrective Action” application and mitigation plan.

Mr. Fischer MOVED to MODIFY the Cease & Desist Order to allow for soil percolation testing on a non-regulated portion of the property, and require a Minor “Corrective Action” Application be submitted to the Commission for review by April 21, 2021 at 12 noon, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

B. GEITZ – 8 Seeley Road – unpermitted removal of eleven trees and a pile of yard waste and trailer placed within a wetland area

Mr. Herter explained the violation and timeframe. Mr. Geitz explained he was not aware these were regulated activities and noted most of the trees they removed were in decline. The trailer

was removed the same day they learned this placement was a violation. Mr. Geitz stated he hired an arborist to look at the timber and the trees, who confirmed the trees were decaying. He asked that they be allowed to remove the logs and debris from the site with a modification of the Cease & Desist.

Ms. Avallone MOVED to MODIFY the Cease & Desist Order to allow for the removal of the woody debris on site and submit a "Corrective Action" Application be submitted to the Commission for review by April 21, 2021 at 12 noon, SECONDED by Mr. Fischer and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

III. 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. Herter advised that we are still waiting for SNEW to make a decision to move forward with a mitigation plan for approval by the Commission.

Mr. Behrens noted they have met with SNEW several times and are getting closer to a resolution.

With no further questions or discussion, the Public Hearing was continued.

B. WET#2679(S) ALICEA – 104 Old Mill Road – “emergency” septic repair within a regulated area

Mr. Herter confirmed the system has been installed under a temporary permit that was issued by staff.

Mr. Fischer MOVED to APPROVE WET#2679, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

IV. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE REVIEWED

A. WET#2685(M) WILTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH – 70 Ridgefield Road – proposed installation of diesel generator with a 203-gallon subbase fuel tank

Mr. Conklin advised the generator will be 80 ft. from the Comstock Brook so he sent it to the Commission for review due to the fuel oil that is stored within the generator unit. There is a secondary containment for safety purposes. This church location will be added to the heating and cooling locations and charging stations for residents during emergencies.

Mr. Fischer MOVED to APPROVE WET#2685, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

V. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE ACCEPTED

A. WET#2686(S) GALLO – 47 Shadow Lane – proposed regrading of rear yard for recreation area

Mr. Fischer MOVED to ACCEPT WET#2686, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

VI. APPROVED MINOR ACTIVITIES

- A. WET#2681(M) DOOLITTLE/JONES – 8 Glen Hill Lane** – proposed generator and three propane tanks including 35 ft. of hand-dug trenching
- B. WET#2682(M) GIBBONEY – 183 Range Road** – proposed shed 70 ft. from wetlands
- C. WET#2684(M) LEE – 45 Ledgewood Drive** – proposed deck replacement 35 ft. from a watercourse
- D. WET#2683(M) COSTA – 25 McFadden Drive** – proposed removal of three trees and install 15' x 30' above-ground pool approximately 37 ft. from a watercourse

Mr. Conklin provided a brief overview of the minor permits approved by staff since the last meeting.

VII. VIOLATIONS

- A. IKEGAME – 16 Rivergate Woods** – unpermitted pond dredging (Cease & Desist Upheld 11/12/2020 – see below request – original Application due date 12/9/2020 – extension granted for March 24, 2021 due date)

Mr. Conklin noted there was a citation hearing last week and a \$500 fine was upheld for failure to submit an application by the due date. The due date for the application submission was not met for this week. The next step is a second municipal citation in the amount of \$1,000.00 and a request to submit by April 7th at 12 noon.

Ms. Avallone MOVED for Staff to issue a second fine and communication regarding the new due date by April 7, 2021, SECONDED by Mr. Fischer and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

- B. O'NEILL – 48 Sharp Hill Road** – removal of 8 trees, wood piles, and a trench without a permit (Cease & Desist Upheld 12/10/2020 – see below request – original Application due date 1/13/2021 – extension granted for April 7, 2021 due date)
- C. GRIFFIN – 67 Borglum Road** – removal of ten trees, and wood chips deposited within a regulated area (Cease & Desist Upheld 1/28/2021 – Application due date March 10, 2021 – extension granted for April 7, 2021 due date)
- D. ATTANASIO – 47 Mollbrook Drive** – removal of understory vegetation (Cease & Desist Upheld 1/28/2021 – Application due date March 10, 2021 – extension granted for April 7, 2021 due date)
- E. SMITH – 230 Ridgfield Road** – clearing trees, understory and excavation of soil (Cease & Desist Upheld 2/11/2021 – Application due date March 23, 2021 – extension granted for

April 7, 2021 due date)

Mr. Conklin advised the violation properties should not be visited by the Commission until an Application is submitted.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE - None

IX. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting Minutes March 11, 2021

Ms. Avallone MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2021 as drafted, SECONDED by Mr. Fischer and CARRIED 3-0-1 with Mr. Lee abstained as he was not present.

X. ADJOURN

Mr. Fischer MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:46 pm, SECONDED by Ms. Avallone and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Larkin
Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs