



MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID MEETING
July 13, 2023

PRESENT: Rick Stow (Chair), Miriam Sayegh (Vice Chair), Jeremi Bigosinski, Nick Lee, Frank Simone

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs; Tom Nelson, McChord Engineers; Alex Etemadfar, Property Owner; Kamran Heydari, AFR PE Inc./H.O.P.E. Helping Others Progress Everywhere

ABSENT: Penelope Koechl (notified of intended absence)

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE REVIEWED

A. WET#2883(I) KROPF – 26 Ledgewood Drive – proposed culvert replacement

Mr. Nelson explained that a 12” corrugated metal pipe was undersized and exceeded its natural life. The new proposed culvert is a 24” HDPE pipe in the same location. The proposal includes reconstruction of the banks with a terrace and boulder wall installed on either side of the driveway. The existing gravel driveway will be cut back in size.

Ms. Sayegh MOVED to APPROVE WET#2883, SECONDED by Mr. Lee and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

III. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE ACCEPTED

A. WET#2882(I) SEELEY FARM/WILTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST – 105

Seeley Road & Seeley Road (Map#21 Lot#3-1) – proposed restoration of cold water refuge and spawning habitat on the Norwalk River

B. WET#2885(S) CRUZ – 5 Wilton Woods Road – proposed in-ground pool and associated activities, expansion of gravel driveway, new curb cut, relocation of shed, and remove invasive vegetation

C. WET#2888(I) ULLMAN – 427 Thayer Pond Road – removal of fourteen (14) dead trees within a regulated area

Mr. Lee MOVED to ACCEPT WET#2882, WET#2885 and WET#2888, and schedule for the next available meeting, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 4-0-1 with Ms. Sayegh not casting a vote due to Zoom connectivity issues.

IV. APPROVED MINOR ACTIVITIES

A. WET#2879(M) ZITTERMAN – 24 Silver Spring Road – “after-the-fact” underground LP tank 40 ft. from a watercourse

B. WET#2844(M) MARKOWSKI – 253 New Canaan Road – proposed underground propane tank and generator 36 ft. from a watercourse

Mr. Conklin reviewed the above Minor Applications approved since the last meeting.

V. VIOLATIONS

A. WET#2781(S) A-E CUSTOM BUILDERS – 425 Ridgefield Road – review Cease & Desist Order and requirements from last meeting

Mr. Conklin reminded the Commissioners that the Cease & Desist was upheld at the last meeting and the Owner was required to implement the specific requirements written in the order, as well as develop a remediation plan to address the clearing beyond the approved limit of disturbance. He noted the plan was not received as required. He stated the owner called and advised he had plants delivered to the site, and he explained the only site work that is authorized is to install the sediment and erosion controls as required in the Cease & Desist. The staff photos from earlier in the day were reviewed showing silt fence not installed properly in places, tree protection not properly installed, the columns at the entrance have been completed, the stream bed has been dug out with a machine, and a large pile of material was shifted closer to the State Road.

Mr. Etemadfar stated he is being treated unfairly and he has followed the plan. He believes the photos taken by staff are inaccurate.

Mr. Heydari stated the columns were not touched since the Cease & Desist Order was issued. Mr. Conklin confirmed he has photos from June 7th where the columns were not finished and today's photos show them completed.

Mr. Lee reiterated the silt fence is not installed properly and must be fixed immediately. He reminded the Owner that no further activities other than the directives of the Order are approved until the Cease & Desist is lifted.

Mr. Bigosinski asked that the Owner submit a letter from the neighbor allowing the debris to remain on their site. The due date for these items is no later than July 25th at 12 noon for the revised plan and neighbor letter.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting Minutes June 22, 2023

Mr. Simone MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2023 as drafted, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 3-0-2 with Mr. Stow and Mr. Lee abstained as they were not present.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

VIII. ADJOURN

Mr. Lee MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:36 pm, SECONDED by Ms. Bigosinski and CARRIED 5-0-0 with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Larkin
Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs