



MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID MEETING
May 26, 2022

PRESENT: Nick Lee (Acting Chair), Jeremi Bigosinski, Penelope Koechl, Theodora Pinou

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs; Daniel & Camille Falta, Property Owners; Peter Gelderman, Berchem Moses; Tom Quinn, Peak Engineers, LLC; Kate Throckmorton, Environmental Land Solutions, LLC

ABSENT: Rick Stow, Miriam Sayegh (notified of intended absences)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Koechl called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Ms. Koechl MOVED to ask Mr. Lee to serve as acting chair with the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 4-0-0.

II. SHOW CAUSE HEARING

A. WET#2773(I) FALTA – 20 Cheese Spring Road – site work beyond scope of “corrective action” wetland permit and failure to comply with Special Conditions of wetland permit

Mr. Conklin provided the background of the violation and displayed the approved plan showing the area the owners cleared beyond the scope of the permit. He also indicated the Special Conditions of the Permit were not met prior to starting the activities as required.

Mr. Falta stated he installed eight additional trees more than the Planting Plan called for under his current permit. He stated he had information to submit to the Commission for the bond and would post it the following day.

Michelle Tupper, of 154 Mountain Road, asked why the Falta’s need to post a bond. Mr. Lee explained the bond process as normal course of action.

Robert Tupper, of 154 Mountain Road, stated the left side of the driveway was all invasives and only one tree was felled by the road. He confirmed he personally did not complete any work on this site but asked why the road runoff illegally goes to his wetland. Mr. Conklin explained to Mr. Falta the Department of Public Works has this purview in the town.

Mr. & Ms. Falta discussed their actions with the Commission.

Ms. Koechl MOVED to LIFT the Cease & Desist Order and require the Faltas to meet all Special Conditions by noon on June 9, 2022, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 3-0-1 with Dr. Pinou abstained.

Dr. Pinou MOVED to ISSUE a fine for \$250 for the second violation, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 3-1-0 with Mr. Lee opposed.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. WET#2781(S) DAVIDSON/MUELLER – 425 Ridgefield Road – proposed construction of a single-family dwelling (cont.)

Mr. Lee noted the Applicant submitted responses based on the Department of Public Works Comments. A new planting plan was also submitted.

Ms. Koechl MOVED to APPROVE WET#2781 with normal Special Conditions, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

IV. APPLICATIONS TO BE REVIEWED - None

V. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE ACCEPTED

A. WET#2802(I) AMADEO – 101 Silver Spring Road – proposed reconfiguration of driveway, modified septic, and new infiltration system

B. WET#2803(I) ARAUJO – 11 Bossy Lane – septic system repair within a regulated area

Dr. Pinou MOVED to ACCEPT WET#2802 and WET#2803, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

V. APPROVED MINOR ACTIVITIES

A. WET#2793(M) THE LAKE CLUB – 175 Thayer Pond Road – proposed reconfiguration of ingress and egress driveways

B. WET#2792(M) GUNER – 37 Kellogg Drive – proposed expansion of existing deck 15 ft.

C. WET#2795(M) BRADDOO – 279 Thayer Pond Road – proposed removal of nine dead trees

D. WET#2797(M) TERRY – 422 Ridgefield Road – proposed replacement of driveway apron 10 ft. from a wetland

E. WET#2799(M) FERNANDEZ – 167 Sharp Hill Road – “after-the-fact” patio, walkway and gazebo 25 ft. from a wetland

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

VI. CORRESPONDENCE - None

VII. NEW BUSINESS – None

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting Minutes May 12, 2022

Dr. Pinou MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2022 as drafted, SECONDED by Ms. Koechl and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

IX. VIOLATIONS

A. ROBLES – 114 Thunder Lake Road – unauthorized removal of eighteen (18) trees and placement of a concrete pad without a permit (Cease & Desist Upheld April 28, 2022 – Corrective Action Application due May 24, 2022 – Mr. Robles requested an extension of the due date)

Mr. Conklin advised that Mr. Robles requested an extension for the Corrective Action Application.

Ms. Koechl MOVED to EXTEND the deadline to June 7, 2022 by 12 noon, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 4-0-0.

B. ALLAM – 271 Cannon Road – unauthorized replacement of drainage pipe under driveway and earthwork in a wetland (Cease & Desist Upheld May 12, 2022 – Corrective Action Permit Due Date June 21, 2022)

X. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

XI. ADJOURN

Ms. Koechl MOVED to ADJOURN at 9:11 pm, SECONDED by Mr. Bigosinski and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Larkin
Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs