

From: Lois Laczko October 26, 2009 11:07:40 AM
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Cc:

ADOPTED

CONSERVATION COMMISSION/INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
April 7, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Miller called the Regular Meeting of the Conservation Commission/ Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency to order at 7:30 PM in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. The following members were present: Commissioners Donald Rieger, Margaret Sexton, Nick Zackeo and Patrick Kottas. Also in attendance was Howard Beach, Conservation Officer.

II. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Chairman Miller appointed Commissioner Kottas to serve in the absence of Commissioner Bucknam and Commissioner Rieger to serve in the absence of Commissioner Winters.

III. PUBLIC HEARING(s), DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE

a. Application of Noris E. Christensen, Neils E. Christensen and Noel E. Christensen, Owners, Noris E. Christensen, Applicant, for an Inland Wetlands Permit to construct two driveways and related grading, construction of a portion of one house, and construction of portions of three septic systems within the 100-foot upland review area to a wetland on property located on the north side of Shingle Mill Road (Map A-10, Block 419, Lot 13) (continued from March 17, 2009)

Commissioner Rieger recused himself from the Commission.

Mr. Whitney, Professional Engineer, stated that he has made several minor revisions to the plans. He stated that the Commission did have a site walk on the property, where they saw the staked out driveway and house locations. There was some water from a recent rain in front of the site at that time, which is now gone.

Mr. Whitney stated that Mr. Beach has recommended that the slope down gradient from the hammerhead turnaround be stabilized with Jute netting because of the slope. The concern in this area is erosion.

Mr. Whitney stated that he has prepared a sequence of construction for the common driveway, which includes the installation of two culverts, one to allow the water to flow and the other that intercepts the intermittent watercourse. He feels that this is an insignificant watercourse. This pipe will pick up the water and discharge it into a rip rap outlet. The water will not be diverted. Mr. Whitney stated that all of the sequences of construction are the same; they require the surveyor to stake out the driveway and the limits of clearing. The most important limit of clearing is on the downhill side of the driveway closest to the wetland. He stated that this will be a fixed limit of clearing. There will also be erosion and sedimentation controls established after the limits of clearing have been staked out and the anti-tracking pad has been constructed at the entrance. The culvert will then be installed during a dry time; the grading will be established; the fill will be placed in 6 inch lifts; the other culvert will be installed at the hammerhead turnaround; and the driveway will be constructed with 3 foot shoulders.

Mr. Whitney stated that there had been some discussions regarding trying to reduce the impervious surfaces on the site. They have combined all three driveways into one common drive. The total impervious surface on this 23 acre parcel is slightly over 3% of the site. Four-fifths of the site will remain in its natural condition.

Mr. Whitney stated that the Commission had felt that the brook and associated wetlands on the property was the most significant wetlands on this property. By combining the three driveways, they were able to provide the 100' upland review area as undeveloped in its entirety.

Chairman Miller questioned if the sequence of construction proposed is to put rip rap on the stone gravel drag out area over the ponded water and then install the culvert after this. Mr. Whitney stated that he does not feel that the construction should occur during the wet time. The common driveway will have about 4 feet of fill; the initial 150 feet of the common driveway will be fill. This driveway is the only way to get onto the site. The anti-tracking pad will be established and they will then box out the road and then the culvert will be put in.

Commissioner Sexton questioned what the plan was for the individual extensions of the common driveway. Mr. Whitney stated that there is a sequence of construction for each lot. The common driveway will be built first in order to allow access to the site.

Commissioner Kottas questioned if the Commission, during their site walk, saw much flow in the watercourse. Commissioner Zackeo stated that it was wet, although there was no flow.

Mr. Beach stated the driveway radius has also been modified on the plans. Mr. Whitney stated that the original plans showed a 30 foot radius, which is the minimum for emergency vehicles to get through. He stated that the Fire Marshal has requested that the radius be increased.

Chairman Miller questioned where the topsoil would be stockpiled. Mr. Whitney stated that this is shown on the plans. He does not believe that there will be a lot of soil to stockpile; there does not tend to be a lot of topsoil in the woods. Although the stockpiling area is near a slope, it will be 25 feet way with silt fencing around it.

Commissioner Zackeo stated that the culvert near the hammerhead turnaround looks long. Mr. Whitney stated that no water is being diverted. The culvert is 117 feet long because it was easier to have only one culvert in this area.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Kottas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion that this is a regulated activity because the activities are within the upland review area. Commissioner Rieger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion that this is not a significant activity because all of the activity occurs outside of the wetland area. Commissioner Kottas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve this permit based on the most recent modifications as well as the submittals of the sequence of construction of the common driveway and the oversight by Town staff. Commissioner Kottas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Rieger returned to the Commission.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 10, 2009 Special Joint Commission Workshop and March 17, 2009 meeting

Commissioner Rieger made a motion to approve the March 17, 2009 minutes as written. Commissioner Kottas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The March 10, 2009 Joint Commission Workshop minutes were tabled until the

next meeting.

V. RECEIPT OF NEW APPLICATION(s)

Mr. Beach stated that there is an application that will be coming in for a soccer field at Curtiss Park between two already existing fields. The Commission members discussed the exact location of the field. Mr. Beach stated that the plan shows parking behind the proposed field. He stated that there was a long-term plan to put fields on the other side of the street, although this cannot be done.

VI. STAFF REPORTS

a. Administrative issuance of an Inland Wetlands Permit on the application of Janet Sienko, Owner, Bruca Massochi, Agent for construction of a 16-foot x 12-foot garden shed within the 100-foot upland review area to a drainage way on property located at 2 Horseshoe Circle, Simsbury, Connecticut.

Mr. Beach stated that an administrative permit was issued for this garden shed on Horseshoe Circle. He stated that there is a culvert that comes off the road, and it does flow through some of the yard before going back into the culvert. He stated that there is established lawn between these areas. The owner of the property will be leveling out an area and dropping the shed on blocks on the natural grade. Mr. Beach stated that this shed will be far enough away from the wetlands and is on an established lawn area.

Commissioner Sexton questioned whether the shed conformed to the Zoning Regulations. Mr. Beach stated that it does. He stated that the Zoning Commission is in the process of adopting new Zoning Regulation. Currently, a shed has to be 25 feet away from a property line; the new regulations will allow a shed to be put closer to the property line.

VII. DISCUSSION

Continuation of discussion on LID standards

Chairman Miller stated that he spoke with Mr. Peck who would try to give the Commission some feedback regarding the latest draft that Commission Rieger put together. There has only been one change to the document since that draft.

Chairman Miller stated that this issue will be put on the next agenda for discussion. He asked that the Commission members review the latest draft prior to the next regular meeting.

Charrette

Chairman Miller stated that there will be a meeting for Chairmen of the various Boards and Commissions on April 9th regarding the Charrette. Although he will not be able to attend, he will ask Commissioner Winters to attend in his place.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Beach stated that the Town has been awarded the full grant of \$50,000 for the bank stabilization by the Sycamore tree.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rieger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Commissioner Zackeo seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.