

DURHAM INLAND WETLANDS and WATERCOURSES AGENCY

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 8, 2008

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM by Vice-Chairman Dick Eriksen at the Durham Public Library.

Roll Call: Members present: Bob Czarnecki, Pat Dinatale, Dick Eriksen, Joel LaBella and Al Petrzal. Alternates Present: None. Staff: Trish Dynia and Geoff Colegrove. Others: Pat Benjamin, John Corona, Wade Moss and several other members of the public.

Seating of Alternates: None.

Approval of Agenda: *A motion was made by Bob Czarnecki, seconded by Pat Dinatale, to approve the agenda with the following addition: Add as Item 11a. Wade Moss, Sugar Shack Construction, Little Lane, Lot #9. The motion passed unanimously.*

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Bob Czarnecki, seconded by Pat Dinatale, to approve the November 3, 2008 minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.*

Public Session: None.

Cuomo Construction, Inc., Construction of Septic System within 100' of a Wetland, Clear Brush and Clean Existing Pond to Create a Fire Protection Pond, Meetinghouse Hill Road and Route 17: Engineer Pat Benjamin reviewed the project, which calls for the construction of four buildings containing three single bedroom active adult units each, for a total of twelve units in all on this seven acre parcel. Each building will have its own well and septic system.

Wetlands on the property include a wetland band and stream running south to north and a small pond. Activities within the review area include the construction of one septic systems and the clearing of saplings which have grown up around the pond. Additionally, plans call for an 18' access drive with 2 catch basins. Activity within the wetlands would include a 10' wide access drive and piping to the pond. The applicant will return with another application if the fire department accepts the pond for fire use and dredging becomes necessary.

Soil Scientist Eric Davidson has reviewed the pond area and determined that there is no vegetation of value and no vernal pools. The plans will also be sent to the Conservation Commission for a possible easement. The site will be fitted with two silt fencing barriers during construction.

A motion was made by Pat Dinatale, seconded by Bob Czarnecki, that there is no significant activity in the wetlands. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Pat Dinatale, seconded by Bob Czarnecki, to approve the project as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Received: December 16, 2008
Office of the Town Clerk

Karen Cheney, Discussion of Recent Conference of the CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetland Commissions: Commission Member Karen Cheney was unable to attend the meeting.

Lyman Farm, Inc., Robert Trent Jones Golf Course, Renovate Existing Sand Traps and Install Additional Under Drains in Fairways, 7 Lyman Road: Engineer Pat Benjamin spoke for the applicant who wishes to make revisions to the August 11, 2008 approved application for a computerized watering system on the golf course. Specifically, Mr. Benjamin reviewed in detail a proposal to renovate sand traps and bunkers and/or replace under drains on holes 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16. The elevations in the area are very flat and standing water on the non-functioning golf holes have made much of the course unplayable periodically. The proposal in essence is to renovate existing systems first installed in 1968.

Dick Eriksen asked if the DEP needed to be informed due to possible pesticide drainage into the Coginchaug River. Mr. Benjamin replied that the DEP had reviewed the system five to ten years ago and it abides by current state regulations. He also noted that the proposed under drain system does not slow down or speed up drainage. The revised system will allow the water to drain at essentially the same rate after percolating/filtering through a more efficient system. Mr. Erikson asked, "What's your guarantee?" Mr. Benjamin replied, "I'm here to tell you there will not be an impact on the Coginchaug Corridor."

Joel LaBella are the golf holes underwater and noted that it is better for the wetlands to have water ponding on the property. Mr. Benjamin replied that the time water sits on the course making it unplayable varies depending on rain conditions. He further noted that the drains are 12" down while the wetland soils are actually 18" down and in areas that are already being maintained.

A motion was made by Pat Dinatale, seconded by Al Petrzal, that there is no significant activity in the wetlands. The motion passed unanimously with Bob Czarnecki abstaining.

A motion was made by Pat Dinatale, seconded by Al Petrzal to approve the project as presented. The motion passed unanimously with Bob Czarnecki abstaining.

NOTE: Commission member Pat DiNatale left the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Wade Moss, Construction of Sugar Shack on Lot 9 of Little Lane: Mr. Moss stated that he had not initially applied for a wetland review because he had viewed the wetland map at town hall and determined that the 24' x 24' sugar shack he is building at the south end of his father's property (John Moss) was out of the review area. After receiving a complaint from a resident, Wetland Enforcement Officer Geoff Colegrove asked Mr. Moss to have a soil scientist flag the wetlands. Mr. Moss submitted a survey done by Soil Scientist Rich Snarski which indicates that the work is being done outside of the review area.

A motion was made by Bob Czarnecki, seconded by Joel LaBella that there is no activity in the wetlands. The motion passed unanimously.

Wetlands Enforcement Officer's Report: No report, other than receiving the complaint regarding the Little Lane property

2009 Meeting Dates: *A motion was made by Joel LaBella, seconded by Al Petrzal, to approve the following 2009 meeting dates: January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 5, November 9 and December 14. The motion passed unanimously.*

Election of Officers: Deferred to January meeting.

Payment of Bills: None

Miscellaneous: Dick Eriksen provided Geoff Colegrove with a copy of some minor changes to the state IWA regulations. Mr. Colegrove will amend the necessary sections to Durham's regulations and set up a public hearing for same.

Adjournment: Dick Eriksen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Dynia
Recording Secretary

Cc: Town Clerk, Midstate Regional Planning Agency