

**TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY / CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MINUTES: January 16, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Kelly, John Blondin, Elizabeth Warren, Jack Phillips, Adam Reed, Art Jennings, James Macdonald

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Paul Côté
Marek Kozikowski

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Folger, Sr. Environmental Officer/Conservation Officer
Donna Thompson, Recording Secretary

THE FOLLOWING ARE MOTIONS MADE DURING THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY/ CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MADDEN ROOM

Chairperson Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Chair Kelly seated Alternate Côté for the vacancy and Alternate Kozikowski for Commissioner Muller.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

PERMIT EXTENSIONS: None

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS: None

BONDS: None

MINUTES: 12/19/18

The minutes of 12/19/18 were approved by consensus.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Folger stated that there has been discussion with the high school about another riparian planting along Plum Gulley Brook on Nevers Road. He will be ordering bare root seedlings for planting along the banks to help stabilize the banks, re-establish habitat planting and ultimately give shade to the water. A mixture of shrubs and deciduous trees will be used.

WETLAND OFFICER: Folger stated that most of the construction sites are under control and stabilized for the winter. Toll Brothers is starting to use gutter guards and rolls for perimeter controls on individual lots, as well as hay mulching.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Appl. 19-03P – Chase Bank, 190, 206, 218, 240, Buckland Road – **Determination of Public Hearing** - IWA/CC application for the construction of an office building, parking, stormwater management structures, and associated utilities on a portion of land east of Buckland Rd. Gateway Development (GD) Zone.

Folger stated that there is a significant amount of wetland proposed to be disturbed, actually eliminated. Over one-half acre would be filled and paved. There is mitigation proposed for higher up on the hill.

Motion to: set a public hearing for Appl. #19-03P on February 6, 2019 based on the possibility of significant wetland impact and the possibility for public interest

Was made by: Commissioner Phillips

Second by: Commissioner Blondin

The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS: none

OTHER BUSINESS:

Beaver dam removal discussion:

Chairman Kelly proposed some suggestions for guidelines in dealing with the regulatory aspect of the beaver issue in Town.

Ray Favreau and John Caldwell from South Windsor Park & Recreation presented detailed information on beaver behavior and the issues they have created in town.

Resident Steve Straight spoke in favor of not trapping the beavers at Nevers Park and how beneficial they are to the environment.

After in-depth discussion about the role IWA and the Conservation Commission should have and what recommendations they should make regarding the beaver issue, a motion was made.

Motion to: put forth the following recommendations as guidelines for IWA in managing beaver dams -

Beaver alterations to man-made stormwater conveyance or impoundment structures or drainage ways on Town property or in Town right of ways:

- IWC Agent (Environmental Planner) should be advised/consulted
- Town is charged with timely removal of alterations to structures without the need for an IWC permit or Order
- Removal of beaver structures that have impounded volume of water and/or sediment, the release of which will cause downstream erosion or deposition, require an IWC permit or Order, based on time sensitivity.
- Installation of fencing, drains, and water level control structures within a wetland or watercourse requires an IWC permit or Order, based on time sensitivity.
- Minor modifications to a dam to lower water level would not need IWC permit or Order

Human alterations to man-made stormwater conveyance or impoundment structures or drainage ways, on Town property or in Town right of ways, not authorized by the Town, are violations of the "Inland Wetland/Watercourse and Conservation Regulations" of the Town of South Windsor.

Was made by: Commissioner Blondin
Second by: Commissioner Phillips
The motion carried.
The vote was unanimous.

By consensus the Commission decided to send two letters to the Town Council. One from IWA and one from the Conservation Commission.

The holiday party will be at 6:00 pm at Oakland Pizza on January 23, 2019.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: none

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to: adjourn at 8:09 p.m.
Was made by: Commissioner Blondin
Second by: Commissioner Phillips
The motion carried.
The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Thompson
Recording Secretary

Approved: February 6, 2019