

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

**MINUTES:** May 1, 2019

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Barbara Kelly, John Blondin, Elizabeth Warren, Adam Reed, James Macdonald, Richard Muller, Art Jennings

**ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Paul Cotè  
Marek Kozikowski

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jeff Folger, Sr. Environmental Planner  
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 7:00 p.m. Chair Kelly seated Alternate Cotè for Commissioner Phillips.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None

**PERMIT EXTENSIONS:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS:** None

**BONDS:** None

**MINUTES:** 4/17/2019

The minutes of 4/17/2019 were approved by consensus.

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION:** Folger stated that work continues on clearing invasive plants from Town Hall property. Parks and Rec has placed a sign on Ellington Road regarding this volunteer effort. There have been three work parties already and another two are scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup>. All volunteers will be welcome.

**WETLAND OFFICER:** Folger stated that 8.3 inches of rain was recorded in April, making it the second wettest April in history (125 years since documenting began).

There are a couple of construction sites that have needed more stringent oversight. Folger will be meeting with the group working on Philip R Smith School tomorrow due to the issue of red water continuing to run into the road and the stream.

Due to all the rain it is anticipated to be a very bad mosquito year. Larvicide is already being placed in public parks, etc.

Folger stated that he has had a request from Superintendent of Parks, John Caldwell, for consideration from the Commission to allow him to remove the beaver lodge from the pond at Nevers Park. The lodge is adjacent to the bank of the pond. They would use a small Bobcat to

pull the lodge from the pond and dismantle it. This lodge belonged to the three beavers that were removed earlier this spring and it is hoped its removal will help discourage other beavers from moving into this area. The commission approved of the lodge removal.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Appl. #19-21P – Mitchell Gravel Extraction – 1488 Sullivan Avenue – Conservation Commission application for renewal of the Erosion and Sedimentation plan to remove sand/gravel on property located easterly of Sullivan Ave. and northerly of Ellington Rd. Rural Residential (RR) Zone. **(con't from 4/17/2019)**

Robert Arsenault once again represented the applicant. Mr. Arsenault reiterated that no trees on top of the ridge have been removed nor will any be removed. Basically, some stockpiled material and some additional excavation from the corner will be used to fill in an area of over excavation in the center of the site and the Eversource pole replacement area. The intent is to level, stabilize and restore the excavation area. A four foot berm will be planted with a salt resistant wildflower mix and a flat pea mix will be used on the slope.

Folger stated that it is a good restoration plan. The berm will be reduced on the Ellington Road side and replanted with the same species of trees that were removed from the corner and a wildflower mix similar to that used at Barton.

In response to Commissioner Kozikowski's concern about protecting the tree line on the ridge, Mr. Arsenault stated that a surveyor will stake out top and bottom of the slope before work is done along that area.

Commissioner Muller commented that the overall plan is far more than would normally be expected. He commended Mr. Mitchell highly for what he is doing with this site. Mr. Arsenault stated that the plan is as it is due to Mr. Mitchell's insistence.

Lisa Riley, Plum Ridge Condos, questioned why continuing excavation in the corner? Mr. Arsenault responded that it is still usable land and falls within the parameters of sand and gravel removal; plus some of that material will be used to fill in the over excavated area and to restore the Eversource area. It will fall way short of the top of the ridge. It is part of the project to create a usable commercial piece and to restore the site.

It was confirmed by Certificates of Mailing that letters were sent to the additional abutters from Plum Ridge Condos that had not received an abutter letter prior to the meeting in April.

Motion to: approve #19-21P, std conditions, bond: \$10,000 renewal of previous permit to ensure adequate erosion and sediment controls are constructed and maintained through the construction process. The bond will be held for one full growing season after restoration and stabilization seeding and planting is completed.

Was made by: Commissioner Blondin

Second by: Commissioner Jennings

The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Folger made the Commission aware of a presentation that Evergreen Walk will be making to Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) regarding a change they are requesting to their General Plan of Development (the Plan). The section they want to add to the Plan is directly behind Moe's, in the middle of the development along the eastern edge. It is between the parking lot and the large major detention basin that serves the property. A portion of the stormwater system is an 800 foot grass swale that goes from the parking lot to the detention basin. It was built with stone check dams every 100 feet. The modification to the Plan shows an active adult community situated on that parcel. This is not a formal site plan application, but this conceptual plan would eliminate that water quality swale and pipe that portion of the stormwater system from the parking lot to the detention basin. Folger's staff comments regarding this proposal included that this is part of the stormwater system and he is concerned that it may compromise the efficiency of pollutant removal in the system. The engineers for the project will be discussing alternatives with Folger that could take the place of the swale and still maintain the efficiency of the pollutant removal. He will be requiring water quality testing before and after that swale to determine what the exact pollutant removal efficiency is. They would have to propose with their site plan a measure that's going to equal that. The infiltration and water quality is very good with the existing swale. The Commission commented on the other functions of the swale, habitat value being a major one. They want PZC to know their concerns. Folger will do a memo to PZC.

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to: adjourn at 7:39 p.m.

Was made by: Commissioner Blondin

Second by: Commissioner Warren

The motion carried.

The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Thompson  
Recording Secretary

**Approved: June 5, 2019**