

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT
MINUTES OF
INLAND WETLAND AGENCY MEETING
December 6, 2012**

The Conservation Commission, acting as the Inland Wetland Agency of the Town of Fairfield held a Meeting on December 6, 2012 in the ALL PURPOSE ROOM of the Holland Hill School, 200 Meadowcroft Road (off of Jeniford Road) Fairfield, CT.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Gumper, Chairman; Catherine O'Donnell, Secretary, Frank Rice; Kathleen Maxham; Letitia Ferguson and Richard Santalesa. **ALTERNATE:** Sam Boyarsky. **ABSENT:** Elizabeth Jones; Felicia Watson. Also Present: Thomas Steinke, Conservation Director; Annette Jacobson, Conservation Administrator; Edward Jones, Wetlands Compliance Officer/Open Space Manager; and members of the public and press.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairman Gumper.
- II. **APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES:** Sam Boyarsky was appointed to sit as a full member.
- III. **BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. Approval of Minutes of Meeting October 4, 2012: Kathleen Maxham *moved*, and Sam Boyarsky *seconded* to approve the October 4, 2012 meeting minutes, *Motion passed unanimously*.

Ms. Ferguson arrived at 7:42 pm.

B. Discussion on Memo on Inland Wetland Program. Thomas J. Steinke, Conservation Director, briefly summarized his memo of November 30th indicating that, over time, more responsibilities have been shifted to staff in lieu of the Agency, and that current personnel resources are not sufficient to address program demands. The wetland program now is pulling the Open Space Manager too much into the program to the detriment of Open Space, Marsh Restoration, and General Conservation programs. Mr. Steinke is requesting replacement of the full-time Wetlands Compliance Officer in the proposed budget this year, but he also feels that other program changes in the Regulations are necessary. Some of the changes to staff permits, Certificate of Wetlands Conformance, may be to require professional plans with regulated areas indicated; site plans; and to move the bigger projects like new houses and subdivisions to Inland Wetland Permit Applications IWPA's. There is a proposed schedule to hopefully get changes in place by July 1, 2013. Staff hopes to have a written outline of some proposed changes using the State Model Regs in January. This process will be parallel with the Regulations Committee work to update the Regs for statutory changes, etc.

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO REVIEW, CORRECTION AND APPROVAL BY
THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**

IV. INLAND WETLANDS-LEGAL/ENFORCEMENT ACTION

1. Civil Summons—Bochanis v. Town of Fairfield IWA re time extension on IWP 2006-07-05, Sweeney, South Pine Creek Road. This matter is informational, but this appeal appears identical to the current appeal on the matter according to staff and Asst. Town Counsel.

2. IWP 2003-08, Black Rock Realty, LLC and Town of Fairfield, Train Station: Status report by Redniss & Mead – Redniss & Mead were not present, however, the Chairman indicated that final reports were emailed and that as-builts are in the mail. Chairman Gumper indicated that these reports will be reviewed by Craig Flaherty of Redniss & Mead, and then Mr. Steinke will provide coordination/oversight. Mr. Gumper is encouraged by this progress but advises that the review process may take several months as the town is still compiling the complete wetland permit file.

V. DELIBERATIVE SESSION**A. New Business**

1. FEE WAIVER REQUEST—Certificate of Wetlands Conformance (CWC) 2012-13-28, Taylor, re: 2940 Redding Road, Septic system replacement. Request for waiver of \$640. of total \$860. The Commission asked if there were extenuating circumstances on the this fee waiver request and staff indicated they were not aware of any. Frank Rice *moved* and Sam Boyarsky *seconded* to grant the requested fee waiver. After discussion, the vote was taken. In favor: Rice; Boyarsky. Opposed: Ferguson; O'Donnell; Maxham; Gumper; and Santalesa. *Motion fails 5-2.*

2. The Monthly wetland business updates for the Agency for October and November were noted.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

1. (RE-SCHEDULED FROM NOVEMBER 1 AT APPICANT'S REQUEST)
IWPA 2012-13-03, Cocco & Piekarski, portion of 120 & 144 Tuller Road & Little Brook Road, Assessor's Map 46 Parcel portion of 27 & 27A, Subdivision Construction, Grading & Drainage within a regulated area. The public hearing was opened at 7:53 p.m. Catherine O'Donnell read the call of the hearing. During the course of the public hearing there was a medical emergency that disrupted the meeting at approximately 8:24 p.m. The meeting was temporarily suspended without vote. At 8:41 the public hearing was reconvened. Kevin Gumper, Chairman, indicated that due to the medical emergency that it was best to continue the public hearing to January 3, 2013, if possible. It was also noted that revised plans were submitted. The public hearing was recorded on tape and is available for review at the Conservation Department.

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO REVIEW, CORRECTION AND APPROVAL BY
THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Richard Santalessa *moved*, and Kate Maxham *seconded* to adjourn at 8:42. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully,

Annette Jacobson
Conservation Administrator

G:\CONSERVATION\inland wetlands\MINUTES\2012\DRAFTS\DECEMBER 6 FIRST DRAFT ASJ.doc

DRAFT

**DRAFT MINUTES SUBJECT TO REVIEW, CORRECTION AND APPROVAL BY
THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**