

Town of Washington
Inland Wetlands Commission
September 8, 2021
Regular Meeting
MINUTES

Members Present: Mr. Papsin, Ms. Branson, Mr. Gendron, Ms. Bogue, Alt.

Via Zoom: Mr. Bennett, Ms. Dubow, Alt.

Members Absent: Ms. Audet

Staff Present: Ms. White, Ms. Haverstock

Public Present: Mr. Freeman, Mr. Hunt, Ms. Kehoe, Mr. Garcevic

Members Seated: Mr. Papsin, Ms. Branson, Mr. Gendron, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Bogue for Ms. Audet

Mr. Papsin called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. He then seated himself, Ms. Audet, Ms. Branson and Mr. Gendron.

Consideration of the Minutes:

8-25-2021 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Motion: To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 08-25-2021 as submitted, by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Gendron, passed by 5-0 vote.

Subsequent Business:

None added

Pending Applications:

There were no pending applications

New Applications to be Received by the Commission:

Yankee Custom Builders for Perlman-Hanson/36 Hinkle Rd/Application for Permit #IW-21-47/Demolition within URA:

The Commission accepted the application and scheduled a site inspection for Tuesday September 14, 2021 at 4pm.

Enforcement:

Ms. Haverstock updated the Commissioners on the status of the enforcement measures that have been made for the following sites:

- 134 Roxbury Rd – Tree clearing within the upland review area of the pond. A Notice of Violation, fine, and instructions on how to proceed was sent to the property owner.
- 255 New Milford Tnpk – Activity within a watercourse. A N.O.V. with a fine and further instructions to the property owner on how to proceed was sent by certified return receipt. The Land Use Office has not received a response from the property owner.
- 25 Juniper Meadow Rd – Failing to comply with terms, limitations, and conditions of the issued permit. A site inspection was conducted after the last IWC meeting and there was noticeable tire ruts from equipment that was used within the URA, an N.O.V., fine, and further instruction was sent to the property owner.
- Lake Waramaug Area – Ms. Haverstock drove around the Lake area to inspect active sites. The engineer was informed that the erosion control measures need to be maintained and the SES controls should be installed as approved in the permit that was issued. Further inspections will take place next week to check that these issues were addressed.
- 66 Upper Church Hill Rd – A start card was sent to the office for the beginning construction of the pool. Soil and Erosion Controls were installed as permitted.
- 169 West Shore – Ms. White stated that she received an email from Mr. Schwartz explaining that the remediation plan has been delayed due to Mr. Sabin's passing but he expects to receive something from Sabin Landscaper Architects before the next meeting.

Mr. Hunt from 25 Juniper Meadow Rd was present to discuss how to proceed with an application to correct a violation. He stated that he has retired from being the president of the condominium association and introduced Ms. Kehoe, the new president of the association.

Mr. Hunt stated that he thought the tree cutting was done as permitted and the condominium association would like direction on how to proceed. He noted that he did submit his application to the Land Use Office along with the fee and a check for the \$150.00 fine.

The Commission and Mr. Hunt discussed plants that would work under the dense canopy area. Mr. Hunt stated that all the work would be done by hand. He added that he will submit a basic planting plan to accompany the application that he has already submitted.

Mr. Garcevic was present to discuss 134 Roxbury Road. He explained that he recently purchased the property, received the Notice of Violation last Thursday and was in attendance to discuss how to proceed with the IWC. Mr. Garcevic explained that they were planning to plant a wildflower meadow as a pollinating field for bee keeping and many of the trees that were removed were dead or sick. He added that healthy trees were removed in the process as well.

The IWC and Mr. Garcevic discussed the activity that was performed in the upland review area without a permit. Mr. Garcevic stated that they are planning to have a vegetable garden in that area as it has access to the pond for water. He informed the Commission that he has been working with a company in Pennsylvania to obtain a seed mix that is native to the wetlands in this area and plans to stabilize the cleared area with the seed mix within the next week or so.

The IWC confirmed that Mr. Garcevic may go ahead with his plans to stabilize the cleared area with the seed mix. The Commission requested an application to correct the violation, along with the fine, a planting plan should accompany the application, that the URA be staked out on the property. Ms. White recommended a survey with the wetlands located as the property owner will need this going forward for any future permits.

Other Business:

Discussion of Tree Clear Cutting Regulations – Working with Conservation Commission & Zoning Commission:

Ms. Branson gave a brief history of how the Conservation Commission developed the proposed regulations for tree clear cutting that they have submitted to the Zoning Commission for consideration.

Ms. White stated that “enforceability” of proposed regulations should be considered. She recommended that the language be written out to be presented to the Zoning Commission with the proposed language in bold capital letters and deletions in brackets and underlined. This is how the Zoning Commission presents proposed revisions and additions.

Ms. White asked that the Commissioners provide feedback to her within the next two weeks. She stated that she would work with Ms. Branson to create the proposed language as it would read in the regulations and then the IWC could present to it to the Conservation Commission for feedback.

Administrative Business:

Communications:

Mr. Papsin informed the IWC that Mr. Wadleton, former Chairman of the Commission, passed away recently.

Adjournment:

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm, by Papsin

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley White

Shelley White
Land Use Administrator
09-14-2021

Link to recording of meeting:

https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/swhite_washingtonct_org/EQCaPw7AnBFEtF78_9vIqWABkny6ylBUAp_8Nwujg4T51Q?e=TwYfu0