

**Town of Washington  
Inland Wetlands Commission  
MINUTES**

**Special Meeting**

**February 12, 2020**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Main Level Meeting Room**

**Members Present:** Mr. Papsin, Mr. Bedini, Mr. LaMuniere, Mr. Bennett

**Staff Present:** Ms. White, Mr. Tsacoyannis

**Public Present:** Mr. Giaponni, Mr. Charles

**Call to Order:**

Mr. Papsin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Seated:** Mr. Papsin, Mr. Bedini, Mr. LaMuniere, Mr. Bennett

**Consideration of the Minutes (00:18)**

**Regular Meeting Minutes: 1-22-2020:**

Mr. Papsin noted that he seated Mr. Bennett at the beginning of the meeting and he was not listed as being seated in the minutes.

**MOTION:** To approve the January 22, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes as amended, by Mr. Bedini, seconded by Mr. Bennett, passed 4-0 vote.

**Special Meeting Minutes: 1-29-2020:**

**MOTION:** To approve the January 29, 2020, Special Meeting Minutes as submitted, by Mr. Bedini, seconded by Mr. Bennett, passed 4-0 vote.

**Special Meeting Minutes: 1-28-2020 Site Visit for Application IW-20-02/Steep Rock Association/ 61 Barnes Rd;94 River Rd:**

**MOTION:** To approve the January 28, 2020, Special Meeting Minutes for the Site Visit regarding Application #IW-20-02, Steep Rock Association, 61 Barnes Rd;94 River Rd, as submitted, by Mr. La Muniere, seconded by Mr. Bennett, passed by 4-0 vote.

**Pending Applications**

**101 Wykeham Road, LLC/101 Wykeham Road/Application for Permit #IW-20-01/Demolition and removal of fire-damaged debris (02:12):**

Ms. White read an email from Paul Szymanski, P.E., and agent for 101 Wykeham Road, LLC., dated Tuesday, 2/11/2020, requesting to table this matter until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Inland Wetlands Commission on February 26, 2020, when Mr. Bohan will be able to attend.

**Steep Rock Association/61 Barnes Rd;94 River Rd/Application for Permit #IW-20-02/Removal of Tree and woody invasive plants along Shepaug River (02:50):**

Mr. Giaponni, Trail Coordinator for Steep Rock Association was present to discuss this application. He noted that after the January 28<sup>th</sup> site visit he submitted the "Project Narrative Addendum," dated 1/30/2020 which explains that they have eliminated the use of herbicides and plan to hand pull the invasives in the denser areas

around the Steep Rock main parking area and in the less dense areas they will use a combination of cutting and heat treatments to limit regrowth. He informed the Commissioners that there is a strong correlation between ticks carrying Lyme disease and Japanese Barberry. Mr. Giaponni added that “the SRA staff will mark the healthy native shrubs and small saplings within the Early Successional Zone” before any work commences. They plan to maintain at least a 10 ft. buffer around the vernal pools when applying the herbicides to the invasives at the River Road location. Mr. Giaponni stated that they plan to use the herbicide, Rodeo, which has a high absorption capacity, and as a result stays where it is sprayed and does not leach to further areas.

**MOTION:** To approve the application for Permit #IW-20-02 for Steep Rock Association at 61 Barnes Road and 94 River Road for the removal of trees and woody invasive plants along Shepaug River, per maps titled, “Map A, Map B & Map C: Tree Removal and Invasive Woody Plan Management,” by Mike Giaponni, for Steep Rock Preserve: 61 Barnes Road and 94 River Road, dated 1/10/2019[sic], Addendum titled “Attachment B: Project Narrative Addendum,” dated 1/36/2020 and supporting documents in the file, for five years with the following conditions: 1. that the Land Use Office be notified at least 48 hours prior to the commencement of work so the Wetlands Enforcement Officer can inspect and approve the erosion control measures, 2. that the property owner gives the contractor copies of both the motion of approval and approved plans prior to the commencement of work, and 3. any changes to the plans as approved must be submitted immediately to the Commission for review, in considering this application, the Commission has determined that no reasonable and prudent alternatives exist, and believes that there is no reasonable probability of significant adverse impact on any wetlands or watercourses, by Mr. LaMunier and seconded by Mr. Bennett, passed by 4-0 vote.

#### **Other Business**

##### **Schedule Special Meeting for Review Proposed Changes of Inland Wetlands Regulations (09:40):**

The Commission scheduled a Special Meeting for Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 7:00 pm in the Main Level Meeting Room to discuss proposed changes to the Inland Wetlands Regulations.

#### **Enforcement**

##### **Enforcement Activity Report & List of Files Closed by WEO (10:59):**

Mr. Tsacoyannis, WEO, noted that there have been 2 agent approvals, which involve little to no soil disturbance. He stated that he met with Mr. Hayden, Mr. Szymanski, and Mr. Bennett at the Williams’ lakeshore property to discuss issues with the site before new plans are submitted.

The Commission planned to discuss a planting plan for the Haested property on River Road at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn at 7:15 pm by Mr. Papsin, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelley White, Land Use Administrator  
February 18, 2020