

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION &
INLAND WETLAND AGENCY MINUTES
July 16, 2020**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Destefanis called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Destefanis would be acting Chair for this virtual meeting.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Cherichetti took the roll call.

PRESENT: Ed Holowinko, Vice Chair; Karen Destefanis; John Moeling; Steve Klocke; Cheryl Brown; Matt Pentz (6:05PM).
Alexis Cherichetti, staff.

III. RECEIPT & DISCUSSION

There were none.

IV. DISCUSSION &/OR DECISION

- a) **#S20-551 – 284 New Canaan Avenue – Landtech for Indian Hill RE LLC** – Corrective Action restoration of a wetland and adjacent upland review area

Ms. Cherichetti noted the application was received at the previous meeting. The Agency members did not have any concerns with the proposed plan to restore the disturbed wetland area. The violation occurred in the spring, and was now stable with vegetation. The proposal is a supplement of the existing vegetation with fifteen (15) native shrubs and overseed with a wetland seed mix.

Christopher Allen, PWS from LandTech was present for any questions. There were none.

The Agency members requested staff to prepare a report with a draft resolution for the next meeting.

V. ENFORCEMENT ACTION

- a) **#V20-1014 – 10 Holiday Drive – DeSimone – *Show Cause Hearing*** – Unauthorized removal of vegetation and grading in and adjacent to a wetland

Ms. Cherichetti began with an overview of the show cause hearing process. She continued with a description of the property and its location. She noted she had been to the property multiple times since January 2019. She noted the wetlands had recently been field delineated. She described the wetland area, pointing out that the western portion of the wetland had historically been maintained as lawn, while the rear most eastern section had historically been deciduous woodland.

Ms. Cherichetti presented aerial photos of the property. She showed site photographs taken at different times; some were from 2019, the most recent were taken during the prior week. She discussed the various activities cited in the order and pointed to the impacted areas in the photographs. She noted the cumulative impact of all the landscaping activities was a loss of wetland function.

Ms. Cherichetti reviewed the directives in the order. She noted the directive to have the wetlands field delineated had been completed.

Mr. Robert DeSimone, property owner, spoke. He noted that he had met Conservation Office staff at his property. He discussed the Declaratory Ruling he had received in the spring of 2019 for cleaning up debris. He acknowledged the activities may have accidentally exceeded that scope. He described his property over time and had photographs of the rear yard and wooded area. He stated his intent to just clean the wetland.

The activities covered by the Declaratory Ruling were discussed.

Mr. DeSimone showed photographs of each of the areas where a violation activity was cited, he described the area prior to his activity and the exact activities he had completed.

The Agency concluded the show cause hearing. There was some discussion regarding the activities within the wetland.

***** MS. BROWN MADE A MOTION TO UPHOLD THE ORDER, BUT WITH THE MODIFICATION THAT THE DUG HOLE BE NOTED AS BEING TEN FEET, NOT TWENTY FEET, WIDE.**

***** MR. MOELING SECONDED THE MOTION.**

***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. BOND RELEASE/REDUCTION REQUESTS

VIII. MINUTES

a) June 30, 2020 meeting minutes

***** MS. DESTEFANIS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES.**

***** MR. HOLOWINKO SECONDED THE MOTION.**

***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

IX. COMMENTS OF STAFF

X. COMMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS

V. ADJOURNMENT

***** MS. BROWN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

***** MR. HOLOWINKO SECONDED THE MOTION.**

***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:06PM.