

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION &
INLAND WETLAND AGENCY MINUTES
September 29, 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, Chair; Karen Destefanis; John Moeling; Steve Klocke; Cheryl Brown; Matt Pentz
Alexis Cherichetti, staff.

III. RECEIPT & DISCUSSION

a) **#S20-552 – 10 Holiday Drive - DeSimone** – Corrective Action restoration of a wetland, watercourse and upland review area

Ms. Cherichetti gave a brief overview of the corrective action proposal and the discussion at the previous meeting.

Mr. Robert Desimone, property owner, described the various complete and proposed activities. He stated he would remove the gravel, but asked to keep the path since it was previously was a dirt path.

There was discussion regarding the hole he had dug in the wetland. There was consensus that the edges could be smoothed and any clear pile of excavated material could be scraped back into the hole, but no fill could be brought in. The area would need to be seeded with native wetland seed mix.

There was discussion regarding the proposed sprinkle system and the Agency members concurred the installation would be acceptable but must be limited to the existing lawn area.

Ms. Destefanis explained there would be no decision at the current meeting, but they could make a decision at the October 13th meeting.

b) **#S20-553 – 12 Holiday Drive - Laughton** – Corrective Action restoration of a wetland, watercourse and upland review area

Ms. Cherichetti reviewed the revised plans submitted by the applicant and pointed out the removal of the path to the fire pit area and removal of mulch from within the wetland area. The plans were shared at the meeting by her.

Mr. Moeling asked about the easement line shown on the plans.

Mr. Chris Laughton, property owner, noted that he was preparing to redo his driveway and proposed to deal with a drainage issue by piping the stormwater that collects in the driveway and piping it to the City catch basin.

Mr. Klocke returned to the corrective action and asked about the zipline within the wetland. He noted he did not believe the zipline would have been approved within the wetland if the applicant had asked first. There was a discussion regarding the location and operation of the zipline.

Ms. Brown noted she felt the applicant needs to come up with an alternative to the wood chip path, needs to remove all portions of the fire pit within the wetland and remove the non-native plants that were added to the wetland.

Mr. Holowinko suggested the zip line wood chip path was likely temporary, but perhaps they could allow it if a small portion of the wetland lawn was restored.

Mr. Klocke stated he felt there should be nothing, including mulch or equipment within the wetland and within the upland review area there could be a path, but not the extensive mulch.

There was a return to the discussion regarding the proposed driveway drainage pipe. There was concern that the proposed pipe to the catch basin would in part be on a neighboring property. The alternative of a dry well adjacent to the driveway was more desirable than piping the runoff into the wetland via the catch basin.

Mr. Moeling noted the activities within the wetland were pretty extensive and the applicant might need a professionally prepared plan to satisfactorily convey all of the activities.

- c) **#S20-554 – 164 West Cedar Street (Colonial Village) – Norwalk Housing Authority –**
Construction of 69-unit residential complex with associated grading and landscaping adjacent to a wetland and watercourse

***** COMMISSIONERS KLOCKE AND HOLOWINKO RECUSED THEMSELVES FROM THIS ITEM AND LEFT THE MEETING.**

Ms. Cherichetti noted a public hearing on the application has been scheduled to open during the October 13, 2020 meeting. The item was on the agenda to allow Agency members another review prior to the hearing and encouraged them to ask any questions.

Mr. Pentz asked for clarification regarding the impact of the project on the wetlands and stated he thought there was conflicting information.

Attorney Elizabeth Suchy, representing the applicant, stated there were no direct wetland impacts and there was a thorough discussion by Ms. Throckmorton in her letter to the Agency.

Mr. Pentz asked about the proposed management of the wetland long-term and noted the applicant had apparently done no management in the past.

Ms. Cherichetti encouraged the applicant to provide a management plan summary for the wetland area, the landscaping and the stormwater system.

Attorney Suchy agreed and assured the Agency the items discussed would be clarified at the upcoming public hearing.

***** COMMISSIONER KLOCKE RETURNED TO THE MEETING.**

- d) **#S20-555 – 16 Hilltop Road – Laurel Rock –** Temporary wetland and watercourse crossing for removal of trees and landscaping activities in and adjacent to a wetland and watercourse

Ms. Cherichetti briefly described the revised plan submitted by the applicant. She noted the plan had the elements that were suggested at the previous meeting, including sedimentation and erosion controls and a plant schedule.

***** MS. DESTEFANIS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION IN MS. CHERICHETTI'S MEMORANDUM AND APPROVE PERMIT APPLICATION #S20-555.**

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

***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0-0)**

- e) **#S20-556 – 21 Homer Street – Hurwitz -** Installation of an in-ground pool with associated grading adjacent to a wetland and watercourse

Ms. Cherichetti gave a quick overview of the proposed pool installation. She noted there was a draft resolution to approve with conditions in her memorandum. She went over some of the conditions.

***** MS. BROWN MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION IN MS. CHERICHETTI'S MEMORANDUM AND APPROVE PERMIT APPLICATION #S20-556.**
***** MR. MOELING SECONDED THE MOTION.**
***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (5-0-0)**

VI. MINUTES

a) September 10, 2020 meeting minutes

***** MS. DESTEFANIS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES.**
***** MS. BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VII. COMMENTS OF STAFF

VIII. COMMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS

V. ADJOURNMENT

***** MR. KLOKE MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN.**
***** MS. BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
***** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.