

NORWALK CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

February 13, 2007

Attendance: Anne Cagnina, Chair; Beth Ackerman; Chris Handrinos; Ed Holowinko; Matt Caputo

Staff: Alexis Cherichetti, Senior Environmental Officer; Sarah Rettger, Conservation Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 PM.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Cherichetti called the roll.

MINUTES

a) January 9, 2007

**** MR. HANDRINOS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMENTS OF STAFF

a) Minor Permits and Enforcement Actions

Ms. Cherichetti listed the minor permits and notices of violation she had issued since the last meeting. She asked the Commission to consider the homeowner's response to a notice of violation issued at 379 Chestnut Hill Road.

**** MR. CAPUTO MOVED TO REQUEST THAT MS. CHERICHETTI NOTIFY THE HOMEOWNER THAT THE COMMISSION DID NOT APPROVE OF THE EXPLANATION GIVEN IN HIS LETTER DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2007, AND TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE TO 5:00 PM ON FEBRUARY 19, 2007 FOR THE HOMEOWNER TO SUBMIT A CORRECTIVE ACTION APPLICATION OR RESTORATION PLAN AS DESCRIBED IN THE NOTICE OF VIOLATION DATED JANUARY 11, 2007, AND TO NOTIFY THE HOMEOWNER THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE DIRECTIVES WILL RESULT IN THE ISSUANCE OF A CEASE & DESIST ORDER.**

**** MS. ACKERMAN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

There was a discussion of how as-of-right agricultural activities could be carried out on this property, and what the consequences would be if the homeowner did not comply with the new deadline.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b) Report of Senior Environmental Officer

Ms. Cherichetti noted that the commissioners were welcome to attend a sedimentation and erosion control workshop.

COMMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS

a) Public Education Projects

Ms. Cagnina suggested drafting a letter from the Commission to the Director of Finance in support of stormwater maintenance funding. Ms. Ackerman suggested writing a joint letter from the Commission and the Water Pollution Control Authority.

Mr. Caputo said it might be more appropriate to invite a representative of the Water Pollution Control Authority to attend a Commission meeting and answer commissioner questions.

Ms. Cagnina suggested that the Commission focus on major public education topics, particularly those that could be incorporated into the middle school science curriculum.

Ms. Cherichetti said it would be especially useful to distribute copies of the existing wetland regulation guidelines to local Realtors, who often discuss the regulations with their clients.

Ms. Cagnina asked about the possibility of mailing information to all septic system owners. Ms. Cherichetti said it was not feasible under the department's printing budget.

There was a discussion of possible formats and topics for press releases and articles.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. CAPUTO MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.