

**NORWALK CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**JULY 26, 2005**

**ATTENDANCE:** Karen Destefanis, Chairman (6:11 p.m.); Ed Holowinko; Seeley Hubbard; Anne Cagnina; Marny Smith, Susan Llorca.

**STAFF:** Alexis Cherichetti, Senior Environmental Officer.

**OTHERS:** Kevin Bartlett, Groundskeeper, Shorehaven Golf Club; Dean Martin, Grumman Engineering, Igor Kurbatov.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Cagnina called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Ms. Destefanis arrived at the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Cherichetti read the roll call.

**RECEIPT/DISCUSSION**

a) S05-225 - 14 Canfield Avenue - Shorehaven Golf Club - Grading, filling, excavation, installation of stormwater drainage, construction of a footbridge, in and adjacent to wetlands and watercourses.

Mr. Dean Martin of Grumman Engineering gave an overview of the project with a map and diagrams. He explained the areas of work which include the eighth tee area, seventeenth tee, thirteenth tee, sixteenth fairway and seventeenth green. He was assisted by Mr. Kevin Bartlett, Groundskeeper, Shorehaven Golf Club.

Mr. Martin described the proposed work in the eighth tee area which includes tee boxes, and a manmade pond. He said they want to reconfigure the area and lower the elevation by one and a half feet using cut and fill; create a new tee box to the south; remove the existing cart path and reseed that area; eliminate the current stairway and construct a new cart path. Mr. Martin said the current cart path was shown on the map as an asphalt surface. He said that once the asphalt was removed the area would require minor regrading and reseeding with conservation mix according to the plan. Mr. Martin said the club proposes creating a new tee box with a footbridge spanning Pond #2 and wetland area.

Mr. Martin said that Pond #2 feeds an existing pipe and Pond #3 and has an existing asphalt channel. Mr. Martin said the club wants to remove the existing asphalt and replace it with stone and grass to make it more attractive. Ms. Destefanis asked about the care of the greens. Mr. Bartlett said that the club has a policy to achieve better grass and

added the USDA has a program especially for greens which the club was following. Mr. Martin said the work in the sixteenth fairway area would include the regrading of the fairway; cutting down the knoll; moving the knoll material and bringing it down to the lower area to raise it and make it less soggy. He said the soggy area is partially a wetland area and is proposing the creation of 4,900 sq.ft. of new wetland; the installation of curtain drains from the off-site and up-gradient houses and pipe water down to the sixteenth fairway and the new wetland area which would be planted with wetland plantings.

Mr. Martin said the seventeenth tee area and Pond #4 currently had an old stone berm with three pipes, one with a gate valve that has rusted shut. He said the club wants to reconstruct and rebuild the berm because they were afraid the current berm would wash out in a severe storm. Mr. Martin proposed creating a weir and said the area would be replanted with appropriate grass and plantings as well as replacing and repairing the rusted valve. He said the club wants to move the tee boxes; extend the cart path; and shift the existing green approximately 25 to 30 feet to a different area.

Mr. Martin said that outlet Pond #5 has no headwall but has a large pipe. In this area he just wants to create a headwall because sediment deposits in this area and he wants to clean up the pond area which he guessed was at a current depth of approximately four feet. Mr. Seeley Hubbard asked if there has been any tidal flooding. Mr. Martin said there has not been.

Mr. Martin said the club would like to begin the work in the fall and thinks it will take approximately three to four weeks to complete and that they need as much of the growing season as possible for the reseeding. Mr. Martin said they had not yet applied for a DEP permit for the tidal wetland work yet, but they would be applying for one shortly.

Ms. Cherichetti said that the Commission may want to consider a public hearing and after some discussion it was suggested that a public hearing be scheduled for August 9, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

b) #S05-226 - 70 Cranbury Road - Tarzia - Installation of a sewer force main in and adjacent to a wetland and watercourse.

Ms. Cherichetti said this site would be familiar to the Commission as they had recently approved a new construction at the property adjacent to it at #74 Cranbury Road. She said there was a driveway to the right, the east of that property, which crosses over a small bridge to a residence in the rear and that rear property was 70 Cranbury Road. The rear residence would also like to hook up to the city sewer and abandon the two onsite septic systems. In order to do that the sewer line would have to cross a small brook which Ms. Cherichetti stated was a wetland and watercourse. Ms. Cherichetti said that Mr. Dean Martin of Grumman Engineering would have more details for the Commission.

Ms. Smith wanted to know why the applicant wanted to hook up to the sewer at this time. Mr. Martin said that the applicant had problems with the current septic systems. This was

a residence with two existing buildings, one building which has experienced problems with the septic system because it is very old and small, particularly slow moving drain runs. Mr. Martin indicated on a drawing that the owner had a sewer line approved to a certain point and said he could extend the sewer line to the two buildings which would eliminate any problems with the sewer hookup. Mr. Martin said he thought the houses were at least 40 years old and have cesspools.

Ms. Llorca asked if the forcemain could accommodate unlimited connections. Mr. Martin said it could not, this would be a two-inch forcemain between two, possibly three houses. Ms. Llorca said she remembered this was a big issue with the permit that was discussed for the other house. Mr. Martin said an inch and a half main was the smallest that could be put in and that this would be a low-pressure system with a pump for each house. He said the other option would be to run two one and one-quarter inch lines. Ms. Llorca asked what connects to Cranbury Road and wasn't there a forcemain for the new house at #74. Mr. Martin said there was, and that all of the lines would go in together and grinder pumps would create a slurry and force the sewage slowly through the pipeline which was fine for two or three houses but if it were more than three houses a larger pipeline would have to be put in.

Ms. Destefanis asked if the lines would be underground and how deep would they be. Mr. Martin said he is proposing the lines be put in at least a foot underneath the bottom of the pond on the property and that the lines would be encased with a sleeve pipe. A trench would be dug and the pond dammed with hay bales and/or sandbags and the water pumped away below the sandbags into an area which would discharge into a filtration area, and once the pipe is installed the pond would go back to its original state.

Ms. Cherichetti asked if there were any further questions. She suggested that the Commission consider holding a public hearing for this application. It was determined that the public hearing would be held on August 23, 2005 at the earliest, with additional information to be submitted by Mr. Martin by August 9, 2005.

#### DISCUSSION/DECISION I

a) #S05-219 - 4 May Drive - Davidson - Corrective action clearing, filling and construction of deck in and adjacent to a wetland and watercourse.

Discussion of this item was tabled until the August 9, 2005 meeting as Ms. Davidson was not in attendance.

**\*\* MS. CAGNINA MOTIONED TO MOVE ITEM B, #S05-222 - 8 EASTWOOD ROAD - KURBATOV ACTION AHEAD OF ITEM A, S05-219 - 4 MAY DRIVE - DAVIDSON, AS MR. DAVIDSON WAS NOT IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* MS. SMITH SECONDED.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b) #S05-222 - 8 Eastwood Road - Kurbatov - Corrective action restoration of slope adjacent to a wetland and watercourse.

Ms. Cherichetti said that in her Staff Report she recapped the conditions of the site presently and briefly discussed the issue cited in the application. She said that in the last meeting there seemed to be a general consensus for approval and possible special conditions. Ms. Smith said that the Commissioners did not get any of that information in their packets so a short recess was taken to allow staff to make copies of the information for the Commissioners.

Ms. Cherichetti explained that previously the applicant had agreed to a corrective action permit application and that there were still questions regarding the removal of the woodpile. The applicant was in attendance. Ms. Cagnina asked if, no formal plan were required, was there something in place to require the applicant to notify them so a spot check could be done to see if the woodpile is being removed and would it be necessary to have a hearing on it. Ms. Cherichetti said that in her report under Special Condition #6 it included the wood pile being removed and the wetland mitigation plan has to be implemented within four months. Ms. Cagnina questioned reseeding the area and Ms. Cherichetti said that she believed that once the wood was removed there would be bare earth where the wood had been. She said that also in Special Condition #6 it stated that all disturbed areas shall be seeded with native seed plants. She also wanted to note that in Special Condition #3 in Limit of Disturbance that plans entitled Pro Site Plan are plans submitted and modified by Conservation staff, and her recommendation would be to move the silt fence to make sure that nothing goes into the watercourse. Ms. Cherichetti said the plans also included grading of the property. Ms. Cagnina asked if this would require another application. Ms. Cherichetti said that any grading other than what was shown on the permit would require another application. Ms. Smith questioned if this meant the applicant can do work the Commission wouldn't know about.

The Commissioners discussed the scope of the application with Mr. Kurbatov who indicated the areas of lawn on the plans and asserted the woodpile would be removed. Ms. Cherichetti questioned Mr. Kurbatov regarding the areas to be graded as the plans did not show grading in some of the areas he indicated would be graded.

## PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Destefanis called the public hearing to order at 7:33 p.m.

Ms. Cherichetti read the roll call.

A notice of the Public Hearing was published twice in the Norwalk Hour on Tuesday, July 19 and Thursday, July 21 and it read as follows: Notice is hereby given that the Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 in Room 231, 2nd Floor of Norwalk City Hall, Norwalk, CT to hear the comments on the following conservation permit application #S05-224, for 7 Renzulli Road, the applicant being Mr. Al Torre.

a) #S05-224 - 7 Renzulli Road - Torre - Corrective Action restoration, with associated grading and planting, in and adjacent to a wetland.

Mr. Hubbard said that none of the letters sent to the property abutters had gotten to them due to incorrect addresses. The letters were addressed to Norwalk but all the residents live in Westport.

As no member of the public was in attendance, the public hearing was moved to the next Conservation Commission meeting on August 9, 2005 by a motion.

**\*\* MS. SMITH MOVED TO TABLE THE PUBLIC HEARING ON 7 RENZULLI ROAD TO THE NEXT CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING ON AUGUST 9, 2005 AS THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* MS. LLORCA SECONDED.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

## DISCUSSION/DECISION II

#S05-224 - 7 Renzulli Road - Torre - Corrective Action restoration, with associated grading and planting, in and adjacent to a wetland.

As the public hearing on this item was moved to the next Conservation Commission meeting scheduled for August 9, 2005 there was no further discussion.

## RELEASE OF BOND

#S05-159 - 8 Allen Road - Faucher - Release of bond for construction of a new single-family residence adjacent to a wetland.

## MINUTES

Ms. Smith informed the Commission that she had gone through the minutes and made any necessary corrections which she described to the Commissioners.

**\*\* MS. CAGNINA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2005 MINUTES AS REVISED BY MS. SMITH.**

**\*\* MR. HUBBARD SECONDED.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* MS. SMITH MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2005 AS REVISED.**

**\*\* MS. DESTEFANIS SECONDED.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH TWO ABSTENTIONS (MS. CAGNINA AND MIS. LLORCA)**

**\*\* MR. HUBBARD MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2005 AS REVISED BY MS. SMITH.**

\*\* MS. LLORCA SECONDED.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

\*\* MS. DESTEFANIS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2005 AS REVISED BY MS. SMITH.  
\*\* MS. LLORCA SECONDED.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MR. HOLOWINKO).

#### COMMENTS OF STAFF

##### a) Declaratory Permits and other Enforcement Actions

There were no Declaratory Permits. Ms. Cherichetti informed the Commissioners that there had been a report from a resident on Aiken Street, Sunrise Hill Condominiums. The manmade pond looked milky and when Ms. Cherichetti went to check it out it was determined that the discoloration was from a very fine suspension of rock dust, comparable to talcum powder, which was slow to settle out, possibly one wheelbarrow full. She said a significant rainfall would wash the fine sediment out of the pond. Workers at All Saints Catholic School were on site cutting stone to repair and replace the sidewalk at the back of the school and Ms. Cherichetti has determined that this is the likely source of the water discoloration. Ms. Cherichetti contacted All Saints but said the masons doing the work did not admit to being the source of the problem. She attempted to speak with the principal, Sr. Catherine, or the vice principal, Sr. Sally, but they are both on vacation. She will contact them again after their return.

##### b) Report of Senior Environmental Officer

#### COMMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Ms. Smith read the list of inspections to the Commissioners.

A brief discussion was held on the procedure to recuse from a meeting in which there was a conflict of interest.

#### ADJOURNMENT

\*\* MS. SMITH MOVED TO ADJOURN.  
\*\* MS. CAGNINA SECONDED.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Hayes  
Telesco Secretarial Services

