

**Town of Warren
Inland Wetlands and Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting – Minutes
Monday, November 23, 2015 – 7:00PM
Warren Town Hall – 50 Cemetery Road**

PRESENT were Member Nora Hulton and Alternates Thomas Caldwell, John Favreau, and Darin Willenbrock. Stacey Sefcik the Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer and Recording Secretary Richelle Hodza were also present. Chairperson Keith Jewell, Vice Chairperson Cynthia Shook, and Member Nancy Binns were excused. Dawn Blocker was absent.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DESIGNATION OF ALTERNATES

Ms. Hulton called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Mr. Caldwell was seated for Mr. Jewell, Mr. Favreau was seated for Ms. Blocker, and Mr. Willenbrock was seated for Ms. Binns.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Favreau **MOVED** to approve the Minutes of the October 22, 2015 regular meeting. Mr. Willenbrock **SECONDED** the motion and it **CARRIED**.

4. PENDING APPLICATIONS

None

5. NEW APPLICATIONS (Receive and Determine Significance)

- A. Mr. Clinton Webb of C. Webb & Associates LLC for **Kelly and David Williams, 149 and 151 North Shore Road** – Request to Amend the Inland Wetlands Map (*Receive and Schedule Public Hearing*).

Mr. Clinton Webb, an environmental project manager and consultant, spoke on behalf of his clients, applicants Kelly and David Williams. He stated that a soil scientist hired by the applicants disagreed with the findings of the previous tests, which had established the present Inland Wetlands map for the property in January/February of 2007. He noted several limitations of any tests being done in the winter. Presenting a site map and a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) photo with overlay, Mr. Webb indicated two areas presently marked as wetland and/or intermittent water course with whose designation he disagreed. He made the claim that the majority of plants in those areas were of the upland type, adding that, while there was some modelling of the soil, the overall chroma did not support a wetlands designation. Upon the 2015 examination of the soil by a scientist hired by the applicants, Mr. Webb noted that some difficulties in auguring had been encountered owing to subsurface impenetrability. As a result, the two test pits were not more than 18 inches. Referring again to the 2007 wetlands map, Mr. Webb stated that it did not identify the drainage ditch running along North Shore Road as a wetland, or another area, which, although lying predominantly within the property of the abutting neighbors to the east, was also significant to the subject property.

After some discussion and clarification of the above by members with Mr. Webb, it was felt that a site walk was warranted. Ms. Sefcik reminded the Commission that a public hearing was mandatory when map amendments were sought and that if a site walk were desired, it would have to occur no less than ten days before the next meeting, which was December 28, 2015.

Ms. Hulton made a **MOTION** to set a site walk for Saturday, November 28th at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Favreau **SECONDED**, all were in favor, thus, the site walk was **APPROVED**.

Ms. Hulton made a **MOTION** to accept the application for consideration of Kelly and David Williams and to hold a public hearing in the matter on December 28, 2015 at the Warren Town Hall. Mr. Willenbrock **SECONDED** the motion, the public hearing was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Ms. Hulton made a **MOTION** to amend the agenda to receive and determine the significance of an application by Dr. Adil D. Mulla for a permit to harvest timber on approximately two central acres of his land at 164 Melius Road. Mr. Willenbrock **SECONDED** the motion, the motion **CARRIED**.

B. Dr. Adil D. Mulla, 164 Melius Road – Request for Commercial Timber Harvest Permit (*Receive and Determine Significance of Application*)

Dr. Mulla presented a site map and reminded the Commission that, with its permission in 1998, he had harvested timber on approximately 28 acres. He stated that his current application is much the same in kind, however, on a much smaller scale. That is, he intended to harvest mature timber approximately 12” or larger in diameter to allow smaller trees to grow, but on approximately 2 acres. He described the area to be harvested as sloping, and that the trees would be dragged down to an existing trail, with the need to cross two streams already furnished with culverts. Mr. Willenbrock asked what type of trees he intended to harvest. Dr. Mulla stated that they were predominantly hardwoods: northern red oak, red maple, and birch. Dr. Mulla went on to state that he wished to hire Mr. David E. Beers, a Connecticut Certified Forest Practitioner, who did the previous harvest, because he was already familiar with the subject property; however, if Mr. Beers was unavailable this year, he would find another harvester. Dr. Mulla was also aware that he would have to notify the Warren Land Trust which holds the forty-acre Mulla Conservation Easement.

After some clarification and discussion of a site visit by the Zoning Enforcement Officer, Ms. Hulton made a **MOTION** with a **SECOND** by Mr. Willenbrock, to receive and accept the application, pending a site visit by Ms. Sefcik. The motion **CARRIED**.

6. INLAND WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER’S REPORT

Ms. Sefcik distributed a thorough written report, a copy of which is available in the Land Use Office. Members read the report and Ms. Hulton made a **MOTION** to accept the Enforcement Officer’s Report, Mr. Favreau **SECONDED**, and the motion **CARRIED**.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Sefcik distributed the Fall 2015 issue of *Habitat*, the newsletter published by CACIWC.

8. OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Discussion of, and possible action on, a “Beach Maintenance Best Management Practices” guide: Mr. Favreau made a **MOTION** to table the discussion to the next meeting; Ms. Hulton **SECONDED**, and it **CARRIED**.

Mr. Favreau made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting until **Monday, December 28th at 7:00 pm** immediately following the public hearing. Mr. Willenbrock seconded, and the motion **CARRIED**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RH', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Richelle Hodža,
Clerical Assistant to
Stacey M. Sefčík,
Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer