

Town of Warren
Inland Wetlands & Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting – Minutes
Thursday, January 25, 2018 – 7:00PM
Warren Town Hall – 50 Cemetery Road

Present: **Chairman:** Keith Jewell, **Vice Chairman:** Cindy Shook, **Member:** Nancy Binns, **Alternate:** Tom Caldwell, **Ex-Officio Member:** Craig Nelson, **Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer:** Stacey Sefcik, **Land Use Secretary:** Stephanie Dubray
Excused: **Members:** Nora Hulton and John Favreau
Absent: **Alternate:** Darin Willenbrock

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DESIGNATION OF ALTERNATES.

- a. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:03PM by Chairman Jewell. The proceedings were recorded digitally, and copies are available in the Land Use Office. All Regular members were seated for the meeting. Mr. Caldwell was seated for Mr. Favreau.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. Stephen Owens, 121 North Shore Road – Request to Modify Inland Wetlands Permit #16-07-01W Issued July 28, 2016 and Modified November 28, 2016 to Include the Removal of Approximately 37 Trees Along the Eastern Property Line.

At this time Ms. Sefcik read into the record the legal notice proof for the Public Hearing dated December 20, 2017. Mr. Paul Szymanski then presented to the commission the changes made to the modification request. Previously the applicant wished to remove quite a number of trees along the Eastern property line, whereas they would now like to only remove the 5 trees along the shoreline, to be flush-cut, with no ground disturbance. The applicant requests a continuance to this public hearing until the next meeting on February 22, 2018. Mr. Szymanski explains to the commission that per Mr. Michael Klein's report, he will acquire a report from an arborist in regards to the 5 trees they are looking to remove. At this time Ms. Sefcik read into the record a letter submitted by Mr. Szymanski on January 24, 2018, explaining the change in the aforementioned modification. In addition, reports from Mr. Michael Klein, dated December 19, 2017 and Mr. Ian T. Cole, dated December 18, 2017, were submitted into the record, as well as a letter dated December 18, 2017, from Ms. Cynthia and Mr. Lee Vance. The email from Mr. and Mrs. Vance was read aloud to the commission, expressing their concerns for a modification to the existing permit.

At this time Mr. Peter Herbst, representing Mr. and Mrs. Palmer; who are neighbors to Mr. Stephen Owens, explained to the commission that the aforementioned parties are pleased that this modification has been reconsidered by the applicant, and significantly reduced, as there were many concerns that the Palmers had with the initial modification request. Mr. Sean Hayden, executive director of the Lake Waramaug Task Force and Certified Soil Scientist, presented to the commission, expressing his willingness to assist the Board, the Land Use office and the applicant with any soil and erosion site evaluations. Mr. Klein presented to the commission, expressing his concerns regarding the site plan. Mr. Klein believes it is crucial to have a new plan drawn up that shows only the 5 trees the applicant is looking to remove, so as to avoid confusion with past requests. Mr. Szymanski explained that a new set of plans will be made up showing only the 5 proposed trees for removal to avoid confusion. Mr. Szymanski continued, stating that he will have the Arborist Report by February 8, 2018 to submit to all parties for review. In addition, he will have the new set of plans drawn up by next week. Both the commission, Mr. Michael Klein and Mr. Peter Herbst agree that a new plan should be submitted,

showing only the proposed removal of the 5 trees, as opposed to a plan showing each modification proposed up to this point, as a way to clarify what they are seeking to remove. Mr. Paul Szymanski authorized a continuance, which was drafted and signed at the meeting and submitted into the record.

MOTION: Ms. Shook, second Ms. Binns to **continue the public hearing** until the next meeting on February 22, 2018; **unanimously approved.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. December 20, 2017 Special Meeting

MOTION: Ms. Binns, second Mr. Caldwell, to **approve** the minutes from the Special Meeting on December 20, 2017; **unanimously approved.**

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. A.H. Howland & Associates for Catherine Deckelbaum, 33 Arrowpoint Road - Second Modification of Inland Wetlands Permit #16-09-01W Issued September 22, 2016 and First Modified September 28, 2017 to Include Shoreline Stabilization and Installation of Additional Raingarden & Blue Stone Patio.

Mr. Szymanski presents to the commission the proposed site plan. The contractor began working on site before acquiring approval, which they are looking to achieve today. The contractor removed the railroad ties on September 27, 2017, in addition to removing the gravel (crushed stone) where the gazebo used to reside. The site does not look disturbed and silt fence is being used. A letter was passed around to the commission explaining this properties permit history. Mr. Szymanski read aloud the letter that proposes the site plans. The proposed patio has yet to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission, but that will be their next step. Mr. Szymanski clarified that there will be a rain garden that has existing sand. A similar plan was done at 213 West Shore which appeared to be successful. At this time Mr. Sean Hayden presented, clarifying that with the use of open joints and sand between, infiltration will be achieved. The drain issue that Ms. Sefcik noticed upon inspection is being addressed, and will be capped. Mr. Szymanski went on to explain there is also an unstable area that is eroding at the shore. The plan is to pack this area with boulders to avoid further disruption to the shoreline and provide stabilization. In addition, the entire shoreline will be planted. Mr. Sean Hayden presented to the commission that he walked the site with Mr. Szymanski and Ms. Dubray, land use secretary, to view the site. He went on to say that rain gardens are most successful when they blend in with the landscape. Mr. Szymanski asked that the permit state no work is to be completed until Planning and Zoning approval is achieved.

MOTION: Ms. Shook, second Ms. Binns to **modify Permit #16-09-01W; unanimously approved.**

- b. Stephen Owens, 121 North Shore Road – Request to Modify Inland Wetlands Permit #16-07-01W Issued July 28, 2016 and Modified November 28, 2016 to Include the Removal of Approximately 37 Trees Along the Eastern Property Line.

As discussed earlier, this public hearing will be continued until the next meeting on February 22, 2018.

- c. Town of Warren, 50 Cemetery Road - General Maintenance and Upkeep of Town Infrastructure on Town-Owned Property and Roads.

As previously described to the commission at the last meeting, a General Permit has been issues in the past to allow for Town upkeep. The Town of Warren is looking to acquire the same approval for routine maintenance.

MOTION: Ms. Binns, second Ms. Shook to **approve** the application; **unanimously approved**.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. No new business was discussed.

6. **INLAND WETLANDS ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT:**

- a. The commission briefly discussed the enforcement from the past month.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. No business was discussed at this time.

MOTION: Ms. Shook, second Mr. Caldwell to **adjourn** the meeting at 7:41 PM; **unanimously approved**.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Dubray

Stephanie Dubray
Land Use Secretary