

**TOWN OF SOMERS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 308
SOMERS, CT 06071**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2006
TOWN HALL – 7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Joan Formeister called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Members Candace Aleks, Henry Broer, Joan Formeister, Dan Fraro, Karl Walton, Todd Whitford and Alternate Members Daniel Fraro and Lise Wood were present and constituted a quorum. Wetland Agent David Askew was also present.

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. Discussion/Possible Decision: Wetlands Application #566, NRCS Stream Restoration, 232 Stafford Road (Property of Fedorowich), Town of Somers

Mr. Askew presented plans for the application and explained that the DEP Fisheries Division has requested that this project not be completed until summer due to fishery considerations.

He reviewed the stream restoration project with the Commissioners. He also described the extensive flood damage that occurred during the October 2005 storm. The project will involve creating riprap control structures along the stream and stream bank stabilization.

Mr. Askew noted that since this project is being sponsored by the Town of Somers, the application fee may be waived.

A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously voted to approve the Town of Somers' Wetlands Application #566 for a NRCS stream restoration at 232 Stafford Road (property of Fedorowich). The application fee is to be waived because the applicant is the Town of Somers.

b. Other – There was no other Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS

a. Modification of Wetlands Application #519, Extend Driveway Crossing of Intermittent Stream for Residential Driveway, 71 Franklin Woods Road, Boudreau

Mr. Askew presented the proposed plans, explaining that the site plan was approved in April 2005 for a crossing. The approved culvert crossing is about 35 feet with fill and extends to about 60 feet with riprap. The contractor has reviewed the plan and suggests that the culvert be extended out to approximately 100 feet. The purpose is to work the grading into the yard and to expand the area where the driveway is for aesthetic reasons. Kevin Boudreau commented that the other reason for the revision is to make sure that water is safely moved away from the house.

Mr. Askew noted that this is a constructed riprap channel probably replacing what was an intermittent stream back when Franklin Woods Subdivision was proposed in 1988. The storm water basin for the subdivision discharges into an outlet channel, which then flows into Gillette's Brook. The stream maintains some base flow, with some contribution from road under drains.

Mr. Boudreau has already an area adjacent to the stream that exceeds the limits of the existing approval. Mr. Boudreau apologized for this situation, noting that it was a misinterpretation of the wetlands on his part.

Mr. Askew stated that he would appreciate it if the Commissioners went and looked at the area. He also asked that the applicants prepare in writing an alternatives assessment explaining why they are proposing to use the more extensive design.

Discussion followed and it was determined that the Commissioners would visit the area, in a group or groups of less than a quorum on Tuesday, January 9, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Askew will visit the site with them.

b. Other

A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously voted to amend the agenda to add: **Election of Officers**

After a brief discussion of the duties of the Conservation Commission Secretary, a motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Todd Whitford and unanimously voted to nominate and vote Candace Aleks as the new Conservation Commission Secretary for the year 2007.

A motion was made by Candace Aleks, seconded by Todd Whitford and unanimously voted to nominate and vote Karl Walton as the Vice Chairman of the Conservation Commission for the year 2007.

A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously voted to nominate and vote Joan Formeister as Chairman of the Conservation Commission for the year 2007.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – There was none.

V. DISCUSSION: PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Karl Walton reported that the POCD is working on amendments to the Zoning Regulations. The changes

involve alternative uses for farms, requirements of cisterns within new subdivisions, and driveway length requirements.

VI. STAFF/COMMISSIONER REPORT

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David Askew presented the Inland Wetland Agent's Report for the Commissioner's review. He also presented photos taken at Grower Direct Farms showing work on the road completed in December.

A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Dan Fraro and unanimously voted to approve Mr. Askew's report.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS – No bills or correspondence were presented.

VIII. MINUTES APPROVAL

The following changes were made to the first page of the December 6, 2006 minutes:

“Deanise Shewokis” was changed to “Denise Shewokis”.

The word “and” was deleted in the third paragraph, near the end of the third line, and changed to “of”.

In the last line, “culver” was changed to “culvert”.

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A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Dan Fraro and unanimously voted to approve the December 6, 2006 Conservation Commission minutes as amended.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Todd Whitford and unanimously voted to adjourn the January 3, 2007 Conservation Commission meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Timmons, Recording Secretary

Candace Aleks, Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.