

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

**CONSERVATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 7, 2009
Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Joan Formeister called the meeting to order at 7:27 pm. Members Joan Formeister, Dan Fraro, Karl Walton and Alternate member Lise Wood (seated for Candace Aleks) were present and constituted a quorum. Erosion Control/Wetland Agent David Askew was also present.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- a. OTHER** – There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- a. WETLANDS APPLICATION #606: NEW HOUSE, DRIVEWAY & SEPTIC IN UPLAND REVIEW AREA, 145 HIGHLAND VIEW DRIVE, MACCORMACK**

Christopher Stinson from Alford Associates represented the landowner and clarified that the application at this time is limited to requesting approval for curtain drains to attempt to increase the area suitable for septic systems. The original subdivision was approved in the late 1980's and the area under consideration was a single lot in the subdivision. The south end of the lot is currently unsuitable for septic due to a high groundwater table. The applicant is attempting to lower the groundwater table to obtain two additional lots, for a total of three. The proposal will need approval by the Sanitarian for the septic systems and Planning Commission approval for subdivision.

Mr. Askew explained that wetlands on the lot were delineated in 1988 and should be re-flagged. Other lots in this subdivision have been re-delineated and there have been changes in the wetland. He and Town Sanitarian, Steven Jacobs, inspected the parcel on January 6, 2009. Advances in the interpretation of red soils in the last several years by federal soil scientists, which are published in USDA technical reports may re-classify some of the parcel as wetland. Mr. Askew recommended that no decision on the proposal be made until the site has been delineated by a qualified soil scientist.

Mr. Stinson stated that the typical time required to monitor groundwater is from February 1 – May 1. The Commission discussed the timing of the application and the possibility of calling a special meeting.

- b. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

A motion was made by Dan Fraro, seconded by Lise Wood, and unanimously voted to nominate the existing slate of officers to be reelected.

- c. REVIEW & ADOPT BYLAWS**

Joan Formeister said she reviewed the bylaws and didn't have any proposed changes.

A motion was made by Karl Walton, seconded by Lise Wood, and unanimously voted that the existing bylaws be adopted.

d. OTHER – There was no other New Business.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – There was no audience participation.

V. PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

There was no action of the Plan of Conservation and Development.

VI. STAFF/COMMISSION REPORT

Wetland Agent, David Askew presented his January report.

A motion was made by Lise Woods, seconded by Todd Whitford, and voted unanimously to accept the Staff/Commission report dated January 7, 2009 as presented.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS

There were no bills. Mr. Askew distributed several newsletters.

VIII. MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Dan Fraro, seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously voted that the meeting minutes of December 3, 2008 be approved, with the correction noted by Ms. Woods.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Lise Woods, seconded by Dan Fraro, and unanimously voted to adjourn the January 7, 2009 Conservation Commission meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Askew
Wetland Agent

Candace Aleks
Commission Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.