

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

**CONSERVATION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 6, 2009
7:00 p.m. Town Hall**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Joan Formeister called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Joan Formeister, Karl Walton, Candace Aleks, Henry Broer and Dan Fraro. Lise Wood was seated for Todd Whitford. Todd Whitford arrived at 7:25 p.m. and took his seat on the board. Erosion Control/Wetland Agent David Askew was also present.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Discussion/Possible Decision: Wetlands Application #607: 3-lot Subdivision in Upland Review Area, 380 Four Bridges Road, Lipton

This is an existing parcel with a house on it. The applicant would like to split the lot into three parcels. No work will be done in the upland review area. He plans to build a house on one of the lots, one lot will support the existing residence, and the other will support a detention basin for a another development.

- b. Discussion/Possible Decision: Modification of Permit #569, New Garage in Upland Review Area, 67 Turnpike Road, Barnes

Steve Barnes explained that he was able to move the driveway from the southern portion of the lot to the center of the lot, avoiding the upland review area. There is a small wetland area in the back of the property.

Karl Walton made a motion to approve Wetlands Application #569. Dan Fraro seconded the motion that was unanimously approved.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Discussion: Jurisdictional Determination for Clearing along Shady Lake in Wetland Review Area, Kibbe Grove Road, Avery

Dan Avery said he wants to do a little bit of clearing of trees along the perimeter of the lake, but at least 4-5 feet from the shoreline, and trim limbs from trees felled by the beaver and currently visible from the development he owns across the lake. Access to standing trees will be hand-cleared so the trees can be protected from additional beaver damage. One large tree will be removed from the water because of its size and visibility. Mr. Askew reviewed the work done to date and commented that the clearing was minimal and mostly involved invasive plants like euonymus and barberry. No plants were disturbed along the shoreline.

III. NEW BUSINESS (con't.):

a. Discussion: Jurisdictional Determination for Clearing along Shady Lake in Wetland Review Area, Kibbe Grove Road, Avery

The State no longer relocates beavers and the only alternative is to trap them. Dan said he wants to put a fence around the trunks of the trees along the shoreline to discourage the beavers. It was the consensus of the commission that this is a non-regulated use for conservation.

Karl Walton made a motion that the Commission feels that this is a non-regulated activity by the Conservation Commission. Therefore, there is no reason to regulate Mr. Avery's activities in this area. Joan Formeister seconded the motion that was unanimously approved.

b. Other:

Dan Fraro asked if the proposed miniature golf course and adjacent restaurant on the former Maturo property located on Rte. 190, which was previously approved by the Commission, would be too close to the parking area, causing oil and other pollutants to flow into adjacent wetlands. David Askew said that a stormwater treatment system (catch basin filters) will be installed should handle the runoff from the parking areas. Mr. Caferelli and Mr. Askew have reviewed the specifications for the filters and the pollutant removal efficiency is similar to previously proposed treatment system. The contractor proposes to lower the amount of fill being placed in the parking areas causing less wetland impact/ David Askew will continue to review this ongoing construction.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: There was none.

V. STAFF/COMMISSION REPORT:

David Askew passed out copies of his Wetland Agent's Report to the commissioners and discussed the contents with the Commission. Karl Walton made a motion to approve the report as submitted. Dan Fraro seconded the motion that was unanimously approved by the Commission.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS:

CL&P presented a lengthy plan for adding another power line for the Commission to review. David Askew circulated brochures on upcoming seminars to the commissioners for their review.

There was one bill from the Journal Inquirer in the amount of \$55.09.

Karl Walton made a motion to approve payment of the bill; seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously approved by the Commission.

VII. MINUTES APPROVAL: April 1, 2009

Dan Fraro made a motion to approve the 4/1/09 minutes, as written. This motion was seconded by Todd Whitford and unanimously approved by the Commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Karl Walton; seconded by Candace Aleks and unanimously approved by the Commission. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Aleks, Secretary
Connie Carenzo, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.