



MINUTES

January 27, 2011

PRESENT: Frank Wong, Chair, John Hall, Elisa Pollino, Elizabeth Craig, Richard Reiter, Dennis Delaney

ALSO PRESENT: Patricia Sesto, Dir. Environmental Affairs

ABSENT: Jill Alibrandi (noticed of intended absence)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Wong called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. WET#2005(S) – HALAN – 295 Newtown Turnpike – construct a single-story on slab 3-car detached garage and convert existing garage into living space (cont.)

Ms. Sesto noted that Casey Healy, agent, sent a letter earlier in the day asking for a continuance of the hearing.

III. APPLICATIONS READY TO BE REVIEWED

A. WET#2006(I) – WILKINS – 93 West Meadow Road – reconstruct garage and other site improvements within 100 ft. of wetlands (cont.)

Ms. Sesto noted that the agent, Rob Sanders, granted a continuance of this application due to the snow cover at the site.

IV. APPLICATIONS TO BE ACCEPTED

A. WET#2007(I) – CRISCUOLO – 12 Wilton Acres – install new leaching system to replace 2 failing cesspools

B. WET#2008(S) – TEACHERS INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA – 10 Westport Road – addition of surface parking spaces within a regulated buffer

C. WET#2009(S) – GUERON/CANNONDALE – 24-30 Cannon Road – rehabilitation of Cannondale Village to include residential units within a regulated area

D. WET#2010(M) – DELANEY – 38 Woods End Drive – “corrective action”, removal of shed within regulated area

Mr. Wong MOVED to accept WET#'s 2007, 2008, 2009, SECONDED by Mr. Hall and CARRIED 6-0-0.

Mr. Wong MOVED to accept WET#2010, SECONDED by Mr. Hall and CARRIED 5-0-0. Mr. Delaney is recused from his own application.

V. APPROVED MINOR ACTIVITIES - None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE - None

VII. OTHER APPROPRIATE BUSINESS

A. Petit Bond Estimate - 84 Stonebridge – Ms. Sesto provided background on this bond approval from 2 years ago. The planting plan that was approved as part of the application is very different from the recent submission, which leads staff to rely on the commission for direction.

The original application requested the dredging of a pond and repair of a culvert. The planting plan was incorporated for the mitigation of the site. The original plan included trees, shrubs and plants which would provide adequate ground cover. The new plan has only one understory tree and the rest shrubs. The original plan of 500 pachysandra was replaced with 50 ferns. The applicant has also proposed ornamental plantings, which is a major shift from native species.

A discussion ensued about the functional attributes of buffers and how vegetation and slope affects the buffer's ability to protect the receiving wetland and watercourse. The commission agreed that the number of trees and extent of groundcover proposed is inconsistent with the original approval. The applicant will need to revise the plan to bring it into conformance. There was no objection to the ornamental plantings proposed in lieu of natives, acknowledging they are not invasive and not particularly reliant on fertilizers.

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wong MOVED to add the 12/9/10 Meeting Minutes to the agenda, SECONDED by Mr. Hall and CARRIED 6-0-0.

Mr. Wong MOVED to approve the Minutes from the 12/9/10 Meeting, SECONDED by Mr. Hall and CARRIED 5-0-1 as Mr. Delaney abstained.

Mr. Wong MOVED to approve the Minutes from the 1/13/11 Meeting, SECONDED by Mr. Hall and CARRIED 5-0-1 as Mr. Delaney abstained.

IX. ADJOURN

Prior to adjourning, the commission discussed the procedural elements of public hearings. The newly accepted applications that are subject to a public hearing will be delayed until the snow cover subsides.

Mr. Wong MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:20 p.m., SECONDED by Mr. Reiter, and CARRIED 6-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Liz Larkin
Recording Secretary