

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Telephone (203) 563-0180

Fax (203) 563-0284



TOWN HALL

238 Danbury Road

Wilton, Connecticut 06897

## **WILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

TOWN HALL - MEETING ROOM "A"

**PRESENT: Commissioners: Patrice Gillespie , Christopher Coyle, Kim Young and Dave Hapke**

**NOT PRESENT: Kate Throckmorton, Kristen Begor and Nick Lee (Noticed of absence)**

**ALSO PRESENT: Michael Conklin, Environmental Analyst; Karen Padowicz, Administrative Secretary**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Kim Young called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

### **II. INLAND WETLAND REFERRALS –**

- 1. WET#1927(S) – KEENE & WILLIAMS** – four lot conservation subdivision in an upland review area at 388 Sturges Ridge Road.

Mike Conklin reviewed the proposed site plan. He described the configuration of the lot division and noted that the back lot's proposed residence would be within the 100' wetland buffer area. He stated that the back lot development would be the lot that would be regulated by the Inland Wetland Commission.

Dave Hapke inquired into the possibility of reconfiguring the parcel lines to bring the proposed development on the back (regulated) lot out of the regulated area.

A discussion ensued and it was the consensus of the commission that the applicant should explore reconfiguring the parcels to alleviate the need to work within the buffer.

Kim Young suggested reducing the lot size of the first parcel that has the existing development.

Mr. Conklin said that it is very possible that the lot's size reflects the requirements by Planning and Zoning. One cannot create a non conforming lot.

Mr. Conklin suggested the Commission may want to think about recommending a conservation easement

to maintain the integrity of the rear lot with minimal development. He added that a tree protection plan for the mature oaks along the western portion of the subdivision would help preserve the existing site conditions along the road. Concerns regarding the preservation of the meadow to the extent reasonable were also expressed.

After further discussion, Mr. Conklin reviewed the comments as follows; reconfigure lots, 1, 2, 3 and 4 so the house and septic area on Lot 4 could be located outside of the 100' wetland buffer area, suggest a conservation easement or restriction along the eastern side of Lot 4, request a tree protection plan along the road, and request the preservation of the grasslands (open meadow grasses on the southern acre of lots 2 and 3.

### III. PLANNING and ZONING REFFERALS –

None

### IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

#### 1. Parks - All

Mr. Conklin reported that Mr. Francefort has been working on a project at Bradley Park to relocate a section of a trail for an erosion control project. He added that Mr. Francefort is organizing Bradley Park neighbors to help steward the park in the future.

#### 2. Open Space Preservation – Sesto

Ms. Sesto was not available.

#### 3. Plan of Conservation and Development – Throckmorton

Ms. Throckmorton was not available.

Karen Padowicz reported that the draft was approved at the last meeting.

#### 4. Center Tree Plan – Sesto, Lee, Throckmorton

Karen Padowicz announced that Marilyn Gould has been appointed to the Tree Committee as a representative for Planning & Zoning.

#### 5. Recycling – Begor, Hapke

Mr. Hapke reported that there is more recycling activity now at the transfer station and suggested that more advertising be encouraged.

#### 6. Household Hazardous Waste Day – 10/31/09

Mr. Conklin reported that he submitted report on behalf of the commission for the Selectmen's meeting this past Monday.

Mr. Conklin stated that the number of cars this year were 421, of which 30 were out of town participants. He continued to say that lower participation rate was likely attributed to the fact that we did not accept latex paint at the collection this year. He stated that this was the smoothest collection day since he began working for the Town..

Ms. Young suggested installing signs with arrows for the next collection day in order to direct traffic more easily.

The Commission thanked Mr. Conklin for his hard work and success.

#### 7. Norwalk River Valley Trail – Hapke, Coyle

A committee is being formed to facilitate the development of a regional trail, stretching from Norwalk to Danbury. The town is looking for volunteers. Chris Coyle volunteered to represent the commission and Dave Hapke volunteered to be the alternate.

Mr. Conklin reported that he is working on a GIS mapping project of the proposed trail along the Super 7 corridor and is also working on linking it with Google Earth.

#### 8. Work with other Commissions/Committees

##### a. Parks and Rec./Allen's Meadows – Young

Kim Young stated that she had nothing to report.

Mr. Conklin stated that Jamie Van Acker, Parks and Recreation Commissioner, is installing a jogging path at Allen's Meadows.

##### b. Energy Commission

Ms. Gillespie reported that there will be a Wilton Green Discovery Festival on May 2, 2009. The participants will include the Wilton High School, Woodcock Nature Center, Ambler Farm and the Garden Club. The exhibits will focus on energy efficient programs and it will be held at the high school field house.

Mr. Conklin suggested that the festival include information on the proper disposal of CFL lightbulbs and electronics at the recycling center located at the transfer station.

#### 9. Regional Projects

##### c. Deer Management – Sesto

Ms. Sesto was not available.

Mr. Conklin reported that 4 deer had been harvested this season so far and that 4 new hunters

are being added to the group of hunters for the controlled hunt.

#### 10. Newsletter - Fall

Ms. Padowicz stated that the final draft should be available tomorrow and expects to send it to Paul's Prosperous for printing and mailing by the end of the week.

#### 11. Other

Mr. Conklin stated that Mr. Francefort has indicated that he would like to form more neighborhood groups to support the town parks.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. Controlled Hunt 2009/2010

Previously discussed.

### VI. LIASON REPORT

Kristen Begor was not available to report.

### VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Sesto was not available.

### VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 10/7/09

Dave Hapke MOTIONED to approve the minute of 10/7/09 seconded by Patrice Gillespie and carried 4-0-0.

### IX. ADJOURNMENT

Dave Hapke MOTIONED to adjourn, seconded by Patrice Gillespie and carried 4-0-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Padowicz  
Recording Secretary