

MINUTES
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY
JULY 13, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL ANNEX – 134 GROTON LONG POINT ROAD
COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Scott, Sutphen, Ashworth, Block
Staff: Jones, Galetta

Chairperson Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. June 22, 2016

MOTION: To approve the minutes of June 22, 2016, as written

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously.

IV. PENDING APPLICATIONS

1. IWA 16-07, Stedfast Baptist Church, 256 North Road

Staff summarized the application which includes installation of a new fence, a new playground, and the installation of a concrete pad all in the 100' upland review area which is flat and grassed.

Rob Stoodley, of Stedfast Baptist Church, presented the application to the Agency. He noted that the Church is installing a cedar playscape rather than the larger one they first envisioned. The smaller playscape won't require the concrete pad. The chain link fence will still be extended to enclose the play area.

MOTION: To approve the Stedfast Baptist Church application for the following reasons:

1. There is no loss of wetland and watercourse associated with this activity.
2. The activity will have little to no impact on the wetlands given the nature of the topography on site.

This permit is subject to the four standard conditions.

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Block, so voted unanimously

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Electric Boat, 456 Poquonnock Road, Invasive Species Remediation, Jurisdictional Ruling

Staff noted this is a request from Electric Boat for the Trails Pond area that has been monitored for invasive species as part of a State permit requirement. The Agency received a memorandum from Paul Williams detailing the plan in the agenda packet.

Donna Elks, Environmental Manager for Electric Boat, explained that a Phragmites stand has been identified and they need to take action to remove it to prevent its establishment at the location. The plan, which is the same action that is suggested by CTDEEP, is to spray a chemical herbicide in order to kill Phragmites. Monitoring will continue as is required.

The Agency was concerned about the size of the area and discussed alternative ways to apply the herbicide rather than spraying.

Elks noted that spraying would take place where access to the site on foot or with vehicles was prohibitive.

Staff noted the area is on the north side of the pond, which is actually on town property.

MOTION: To find that removal of invasive species from the Trails Pond area, 456 Poquonnock Road, as outlined in the June 29, 2016 memorandum from Paul Williams will not disturb the indigenous character of the wetlands, will not alter water flow, and will not result in the deposition of material in the wetlands or watercourse. The Agency determines that this activity is permitted as a nonregulated use as defined in section 4.2a of its regulations and does not require a wetland permit.

Motion made by Sutphen, seconded by Ashworth, so voted unanimously

2. Report of Chair – None
3. Report of Staff
 - CTDEEP Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency Legal and Administrative Updates

Staff noted that these were recent court cases that are available for informational purposes. For the most part, the Agency is aware of the issues raised by the cases.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Barbara Block, Secretary
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Lynda Galetta
Office Assistant II