

MINUTES  
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY  
JANUARY 14, 2009 - 7:30 P.M.  
TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

I. ROLL CALL

Agency: Ashworth, Block, Furlong, Scott, Williams  
Staff: Jones, Silsby

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Scott at 7:33 p.m.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

MOTION: To elect David Scott as Chairperson, Eunice Sutphen as Vice-Chairman, and Barbara Block as Secretary of the Inland Wetlands Agency.

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

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – None.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of December 10, 2008

MOTION: To approve the minutes of December 10, 2008

Motion by Ashworth, seconded by Williams, so voted unanimously as written.

V. NEW APPLICATIONS

1. Lily Lane Bicycle Trail Renovation, Gary Court & Lily Lane

Town Engineer Debbie Marshall-Baker presented the plans for the proposed trail renovation and new trail. She reviewed the plans which include renovations to the existing path from Knoxville Court to the Haley Farm boundary and construction of a new trail from Lily Lane to Gary Court. The trail will be constructed to town multi-use trail standards and will be a 12 foot wide paved surface with grass shoulders. Planking will be replaced at the bridge over Fort Hill Brook. Baker reviewed the wetland locations and noted two vernal pools in the area. No work will take place in wetlands. There is some activity in the upland review area.

Furlong expressed concern with the location of the new trail, noting that it is 50 feet from a vernal pool. Jones stated that this additional trail is being proposed in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Master Trail Plan. It was shown on the plan the Agency reviewed for the water pollution control upgrades in 2005 and that permit required the trail to be a minimum of 50 feet from the wetlands. She noted that grant money that Parks and Recreation obtained will be used for this project.

The Agency discussed the merits of other materials as a trail surface. They asked Baker to explore other options for the surface. Scott requested that Baker calculate how much water flow would be present.

The Agency scheduled a site walk on Monday, January 26, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

VI. PENDING APPLICATIONS

2. Hannah Enterprises, 530 New London Road, Mystic

Landscape Architect Nuria Stockman of Dicesare Bentley Engineers reviewed the plans with the Agency, pointing out Eccleston Brook and marked wetlands.

The proposal is to re-open the gas station, install new underground tanks and new pumps. The proposal also includes the installation of a canopy, construction of a new sidewalk and closing off the Route 1 driveway nearest the intersection. The drainage system will be modified to include an oil/water separator. Screening will be improved and a new fence near the newly built homes on Route 1 would be installed.

Stockman reviewed the erosion control plan, including measures to be taken during dewatering to ensure that sediment is not discharged to the brook. Stockman explained that hay bales and crushed stone would be used for the dewatering area. The process of the construction was reviewed in relationship to demolition, stockpiling, installing tanks, base materials, storm water, utilities, and pavement.

Fazley Rabbi, the property owner, reviewed operating procedures at the gas station and discussed what happens if there is a gas spill.

Clint Brown of Dicesare Bentley Engineers, reviewed the drainage system. He noted that impervious surfaces will be reduced on the site and that currently, there are no stormwater treatments in place. Furlong expressed concerns about the intersection being nearly underwater at certain times due to large amounts of rainwater. Brown noted that the history of flooding has been studied in that area and due to the site's location in the watershed, flooding problems would continue to exist.

Rabbi noted that no auto repair work will be done on site. He added that everything will be brought up to code. He stated that electric heat or propane would be used. Restrooms would be located at the corner of the building and referred to the hours of operation. He stated that they would not be open 24 hours a day and that set hours would be in place.

Jones stated that the plans were received last Friday and additional comments from town engineering are expected.

MOTION: To classify as a minor application.

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

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. City of Groton referral regarding 250 Brandegee Avenue, West Side Middle School

Stockman reviewed the plans with the Agency and Jones presented an aerial photo. The proposal is to re-grade the existing play area, install drainage, and keep ball fields in the same location. Wet fields have been a big concern.

Jones reviewed the location of the existing wetlands, drainage system, and the headwall. One to two feet of fill would be installed in some areas and the slope cut in others.

Stockman reviewed the sediment control plan and noted that hay bales and silt sacks would be used.

The Agency had no comment.

2. Report of Chair – None.
3. Report of Staff

Jones gave an update regarding the Konover/Wal\*Mart litigation noting that a withdrawal of the appeal of the denial (IWA 08-02) was submitted. Konover has also submitted a motion indicating that it no longer has interest in the land and would not participate in the appeal of the approval (IWA 08-10). She stated that Town Attorney Mike Carey would be present at the next Wetlands meeting scheduled for January 28, 2009, to discuss this issue with the Agency under Executive Session. Executive Session will begin at 7:00 p.m. and the regularly scheduled meeting would begin at 7:30 p.m.

Jones referred to an article about violations that exist on the property located at 2222 Gold Star Highway, owned by Dee Cheshire. As a result of inspection by the building official, zoning official, fire marshal and herself, DEP was notified regarding hazardous material on site. Approximately 1200 gallons of hazardous material were removed from the site. She could not determine whether wetland violations exist due to snow cover. Wetlands are located north and west of the property.

Jones gave an update on the order imposed on the Crandall property located on Lambtown Road. She stated that she and Zoning Officer Lee Treadway are working with the Town Attorney to enforce their orders. A February court date has been set.

Jones presented a photo of the Community Baptist Church located on Route 184 and noted that all vegetation is intact and no disturbance within the conservation area has occurred.

#### VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. 767 River Road

The Agency reviewed the letter from James Cowen regarding the wetlands at 767 River Road. This letter was submitted by the property owner to provide additional information in response to the preliminary discussion at the December 2008 meeting. The Agency was still concerned with the proximity of the addition to the watercourse.

#### IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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Barbara Block, Secretary  
Inland Wetland Agency

Prepared by Robin Silsby  
Office Assistant II