

WINDHAM INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

Minutes for Thursday, June 12, 2014

Call to Order – The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Members present were Susan Johnson-Chair, Joseph Marsalisi, Katherine Eves, and Joseph Wagner. Also present - James Finger, Wetlands Agent and Richard Mihok - Civil Engineer, Mr.Cusumano -property owner, and George Logan - Soil & Wetland Scientist.

Old Business

The Golf Club At Windham – 184 Club Road, Windham seeking Wetlands permit to expand or clean out existing ponds, and to expand one fairway that is classified as a wetland area.

Civil engineer Richard Mihok and property owner Mr. Cusumano came before the commission to present the plans to clean three ponds and expand two of the three ponds on the Golf Course. The pond by the twelfth hole would be cleaned of silt and a liner installed.

Chairman Johnson asked how the work would be done and how collapse would be avoided. Mr. Mihok said vegetation to be cleared from the pond will be removed to outside the watershed area. The sides of the pond will slope gently to avoid collapse.

Commissioner Eves asked what the liner material was composed of, and how the pond will be maintained with a liner in it? Mr. Mihok said the liner is vinyl and Mr. Cusumano said additional drainage will be put in the pond and underground wells will be accessed to refill the pond as necessary.

Commissioner Eves also asked about the turtles and other wildlife in the pond. The liner was described and discussed further and Mr. Logan stated that the liner will provide for both wildlife and water retention.

Mr. Finger asked about ground water under the liner and Mr. Logan said the ground water will naturally move laterally.

The next pond discussed was the west pond, or middle pond, behind hole #15. Mr. Logan described this as the pond with a natural and stable water supply and a gravel dam. This pond has many bullfrogs as well as turtles and fish. Prior to draining for cleaning, the turtles and fish would be moved to a safe location, and bullfrogs will be allowed to move on their own. The pond will be cleaned, and native planting installed at edge. Turtles and fish will be returned, and bullfrogs will return on their own.

The eastern pond is the pond with warm water features.

Chairman Johnson also asked for the timeframe and Mr. Cusumano reported that work will begin immediately, upon approval of this application. Mr. Finger stated that the Town will continue to check on progress as project continues.

Chairman Johnson asked how the area would be maintained. Mr. Cusumano replied that fallen leaves on the fairway would be vacuumed up and removed to compost, to control silt build-up in ponds.

After brief deliberation of the supplemental materials presented by the owner's consultants - Richard Mihok Consulting Engineer, and REMA Ecological Services LLC, The Chair called for a motion to act on the application.

Commissioner Joe Marsalisi made a motion to approve the application of **KKC Property Company LLC (aka The Golf Club At Windham) - for properties located at 184 & 185 Club Rd., Windham** seeking an Inland Wetlands Permit to conduct regulated activities in the wetlands, and uplands to clean out and expand three existing man-made ponds for a permit, and Commissioner Kit Eves seconded the motion.

Commissioner Joseph Wagner urged that the permit be conditioned on the recommendations from the Soil & Wetland Scientist - George Logan of REMA Ecological Services.

Commissioner Joe Marsalisi agreed to the amendment, and Commissioner Kit Eves seconded the amendment. All Commissioners present voted in favor to approve the application as amended for the permit.

Other Business – None

Routine Business – Discussion and Possible Action

Miscellaneous- Mr. Finger drew commissioner's attention to the hand-out regarding continuing work at Camp Horizons and pictures of the progress were also presented.

Mr. Finger also reported on an enforcement issue at a property on Commerce Drive. When a new tenant applied for a permit to install a fence, the inspector found a number of barrels of unknown material. Although the owner of the property had been contacted a year earlier, another verbal warning was issued. Still the barrels have not been removed and next Mr. Finger will be sending a written notice of violation. If necessary, the next step would be a cease and desist order.

Commissioner Eves reported that she has viewed 2 of the 3 DVD's with inland/ wetland training, and Commissioner Wagner has signed up for the DVDs also .

Moved by Commissioner Wagner, Seconded by Commissioner Eves to adjourn the meeting at 7:50. Motion Carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Laukaitis for James Finger, Inland Wetland Agent