

TOWN OF FARMINGTON
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

February 5, 2020

Present were Chairman Hannon, Commissioners Fox, Isner, Simpson, Statchen, Wolf and Alternate Commissioners Berlandy and Bryk and Assistant Town Planner and Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Jason Levesque – 169 Main Street

Regulated activity within upland review area to construct new house at 169 Main Street. Brian Cunningham, P.E., Robert Green Associates, presented the project to construct a new house at 169 Main Street. The new house will be constructed in a location set back further away from Main Street than the previous house. The existing detached garage will remain in place. Driveway access is off Main Gate as discussed with the Main Gate project previously approved. Mr. Cunningham reviewed proposed drainage pattern of the overall site, grading improvements, fill proposed, and erosion and sedimentation control measures planned. He stated an updated wetland and biologist reports were also submitted. When asked where the upland review limit was on the site, Mr. Cunningham responded the entire property is within the upland review area. He will add the upland review limit to the next plan revision. The Commission asked if roof leaders will be installed. Mr. Cunningham responded they are willing to pipe roof leaders or install a series of underground chambers at the south side of the property. The Commission asked if a crossing would be constructed over the brook for access to the rear of the property. Mr. Cunningham responded no. No activity is proposed within the wetlands.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Statchen/Simpson) it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Jason Levesque application for regulated activity within upland review area to construct new house at 169 Main Street.

After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Commission to conduct a site visit Sunday, February 9, 2020.

Earthlight – 70 Batterson Park Road

Regulated activity within wetland and upland review area to install solar array at 70 Batterson Park Road. Vivek Jani, Earthlight, reviewed the site plan showing the location of the ground mounted solar array with fencing surrounding the area. The wetland limit is delineated on the site plan. George Logan, PWS, Rema Ecological Services, LLC, provided a review of the site features and details of the study area which are part of his wetland report. Solar array occupies approximately 3 acres of lawn area, a portion of which is delineated wetland (1.6 acres). The construction of the solar arrays will result in 580 square feet of permanent direct wetland impact for the foundations for the panels. There will be approximately 1,250 square feet of temporary direct wetland impact for the placement of utility trenches. Erosion and sedimentation control measures included silt fence with silt sock around the perimeter of the project area. Mr. Logan stated they are not removing vegetation and he is proposing to create a wet meadow by planting a seed mix with a combination of fast and late growing seeds under and around the solar panels. The solar array area is currently a mowed lawn. Monitoring of the plantings will be important. The Commission asked some clarifying questions regarding drip line off the solar panels, limit of

work area, drainage/runoff calculations. The Commission requested manufacturer's information on the solar panels proposed.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Isner/Fox) it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Earthlight application for regulated activity within wetland and upland review area to install solar array at 70 Batterson Park Road.

It was the consensus of the Commission to conduct a site visit Sunday, February 9, 2020.

PLANNER'S REPORT

41 Woodruff Road

Assistant Town Planner Rutherford provided an update; the property owner's representative was present; the site will be inspected this spring per Ian Coles plan and it was recommended that discussion regarding a fine reduction be considered after the spring inspection of the plantings.

MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

01-08-20

A motion was made and seconded (Statchen/Isner) to approve the January 8, 2020 Inland Wetlands meeting minutes.

Commissioner Wolf voiced concern with the sentence from the minutes "Based on the improvements made, reducing the number of lots is not warranted, as the quantity of lots does not have a material impact on the wetlands." He requested the statement be removed from the minutes. A discussion ensued for clarification. It was then the consensus of the Commission to table approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

SJM