TOWN OF FARMINGTON
INLAND WETLANS COMMISSION

April 15, 2020

Present for the online web conference was Chair Hannon, Commissioners Fox, Isner, Simpson, Statchen, Tulin, Wolf and Alternate Commissioner Berlandy. The Assistant Town Planner and Clerk were also present. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present in the Council Chambers were Commissioner Statchen and Assistant Town Planner Rutherford, all others were present online.

The Commission observed a moment of silence in remembrance of former longtime Commission member John Radas. 

Upon a motion made and seconded (Isner/Fox) it was unanimously VOTED: To move New Business Item No. 1 to be heard after New Business Item No. 3.

NEW BUSINESS

Town of Farmington - Westwoods Country Club

Regulated activity within upland review area to expand deck. Mark Zommer was present via online to answer questions of the Commission. The deck on the back of the clubhouse is to be rebuilt and expanded as presented at the last meeting. There were no questions and no concerns voiced by the Commission.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Wolf/Simpson) it was unanimously VOTED: To approve the regulated activity within upland review area to expand deck at Westwoods Country Club, 14 Westwoods Drive as presented and on file in the Planning Office with the following conditions:

a. Perimeter erosion control shall include silt fence and silt sock.

b. Appropriate trash and recycling containers shall be provided for patrons and staff.

WDII, LLC – Bridgehampton Subdivision

Reapproval of application for regulated activity within upland review area and within wetlands related to construction of cluster subdivision known as the Bridgehampton subdivision with access from River Road and Burlington Rd, known as original Assessor’s Map #s 32, 33, 21 and 22 and Lot #s 11, 7A, 10, 45 and 46 approved April 18, 2006. Assistant Town Planner Rutherford summarized the need for a reapproval as all extensions of time have been exhausted. There is no change to the plan. Joe Truncali, WDII, LLC, reviewed the status of the development of the subdivision as it relates to the wetland approval. Attorney Christian Hoheb stated the subdivision was approved in 2006 with conditions of approval; these conditions will be included in the reapproval. Town Plan & Zoning Commission related comments from staff will be addressed by the Plan & Zoning Commission. The opinion letter from Halloran & Sage was discussed for clarification. Clarification was made between the lot numbers shown on the subdivision plan, versus the Town assigned Assessor’s Map and Lot numbers. The applicant has provided a summary letter as part of their application packet, discussing in detail the current status of each phase of the project. Wetland/watercourse crossings have been completed for the
roadway. There is one crossing remaining to connect the watermain from Gateshead Way to Glen Hollow Dr. There was some discussion for clarification of remaining work to be done within the upland review area. The Commission asked that the current 150 ft. upland review line be added to the site plan and if lots within the subdivision have an integrated pest management plan; and if not suggested implementing one for the homes remaining to be developed.

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

VOTED: To accept the WDII, LLC application for reapproval of regulated activity within upland review area and within wetlands related to construction of cluster subdivision known as the Bridgehampton subdivision with access from River Road and Burlington Rd, known as original Assessor’s Map #s 32, 33, 21 and 22 and Lot #s 11, 7A, 10, 45 and 46 approved April 18, 2006.

The Commission will conduct a site visit; coordinated by the Assistant Town Planner to respect social distancing.

Show-Cause Hearing – 69 Forest Hills Drive

Cease and Desist order for conduct of regulated activity without a permit for property located at 69 Forest Hills Drive. Attorney Charles Shimkus represented the property owner and explained that the tree cutting was an innocent act and that they had no knowledge of the wetlands. Matt Davison, Davison Environmental, inspected this site to delineate wetlands and submitted a report dated March 23, 2020 and revised April 11, 2020. His investigation of a wetland area confirmed that the pond functions as a vernal pool. The pond is located within an Eversource distribution line corridor just outside 69 Forest Hills Drive. Recent tree cutting was observed between 50 and 70 feet from the delineated area. It is recommended that no more tree cutting be done. The homeowner would like to remove at least one more tree that is leaning toward the house. The Commission asked some clarifying questions and then suggested a map and restoration plan be submitted for consideration by the Commission. There was some discussion regarding a conservation easement area along the current edge of clearing and the use of medallions to restrict further tree cutting. The Commission came to consensus that a site walk was not necessary.

PLANNER’S REPORT

1 Old Gate

Assistant Town Planner met with the owner of 1 Old Gate about their request to remove some trees to the rear of their property. An aerial was used for clarification regarding the location. The small trees will be removed and replaced with suitable material.

MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

03-18-20

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

VOTED: 7 in favor, 1 abstention (Hannon) to approve the March 18, 2020 Inland Wetlands meeting minutes.
The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

SJM