

TOWN OF FARMINGTON
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

October 7, 2020

Present for the online web conference was Chair Hannon, Commissioners Fox, Isner, Simpson, Statchen, Tulin, Wolf and Alternate Commissioner Berlandy. The Interim Town Planner and Clerk were also present. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present in the Development Conference Room were Interim Town Planner Rutherford and Clerk, all others were present online.

NEW BUSINESS

Christian Rice – 17 Vine Hill

Regulated activity within upland review area to construct driveway, install utilities and grading for single-family house at 17 Vine Hill. David Whitney, P.E., represented the property owner, Christian Rice. Mr. Whitney oriented the Commission to the site; and reviewed the details of his color-coded site plan showing the limit of work proposed within the upland review area. The intermittent watercourse, which Mr. Whitney stated is currently dry, was highlighted along with the proposed location of a catch basin Engineering Staff has requested be installed for the new driveway. Mr. Whitney explained the property owner would like to develop the site but is proposing the driveway on the eastern side of the lot instead of the western side. All grading associated with the new house, pool and septic system will be outside the upland review area. Mr. Whitney stated for the record they have no issue with staff comments and recommendations. The Commissioners asked for clarification on why they do not plan to use the existing dirt road located on the western side of the property; if the wetland scientist should take another look at the site because it has been approximately six years since they submitted their report; on the limits of clearing and the slope of the driveway(s). Mr. Whitney responded they are not proposing to use the dirt road because of its proximity to an existing driveway across the street at 18 Vine Hill. The driveways would be directly across from each other. He commented a couple wetland flags are still visible for the intermittent watercourse. Mr. Whitney provided clarification on some general questions. Mr. Whitney will work with the soil scientist to get an updated analysis.

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

VOTED: To accept the Christian Rice application for regulated activity within upland review area to construct driveway, install utilities and grading for single-family house at 17 Vine Hill.

The Commission would like to conduct a site visit on October 17, 2020 at 8:30 am.

Show-Cause Hearing – 15 Pond Street

Cease and Desist Order for conduct of regulated activity without a permit for property located at 15 Pond Street. Interim Town Planner Rutherford stated she was contacted by wetland scientist, Ian Cole, and he is working with the homeowners of 15 Pond Street plan to have a restoration plan/recommendation ready for the next meeting for the Commission to consider.

Show-Cause Hearing – 1179 Farmington Avenue

Cease and Desist Order for conduct of regulated activity without a permit for property located at 1179 Farmington Avenue. Two third party review contracts were received and sent to the Commissioners for review and consideration; Connecticut Ecosystems, LLC and Milone & MacBroom. A brief discussion ensued about the proposals and then the Commissioners came to consensus to select Connecticut Ecosystems, LLC. Attorney William Galske was present online and said he had no comment at this time. Interim Town Planner Rutherford will contact the consultants and inform them of the decision.

PLANNER'S REPORT

CACIWC

The membership renewal to CACIWC is all set. Commissioners can log into the site online to attend the annual meeting.

The Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England

The Society's registry is only available online for 2021 at http://nesoil.com/ssssne/SSSSNE_Official_Registry.html

MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

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

VOTED: To approve the September 16, 2020 Inland Wetlands meeting minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

SJM