



Town of Griswold



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GRISWOLD INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION & AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING
GRISWOLD TOWN HALL

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
JULY 21, 2016

I. Regular Meeting (7:30 P.M.)

1. Call to Order

Chairman Courtland Kinnie called this regular meeting of the Griswold Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Conservation Commission to order on July 20, 2017 at 7:31 p.m.

2. Roll Call & Determination of Quorum

Present: Courtland Kinnie, Robert Parrette, Gary Serdechny, Clarence (Pete) Merrill, Lauren Churchill, Glen Norman, Town Planner Mario Tristany, WEO Peter Zvingilas, Recording Secretary Donna Szall

Absent: Lawrence Laidley

There was a quorum for this regular meeting.

3. Written Complaints

There were no written complaints.

4. Approval of the Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes for the June 15, 2017 meeting.

L. Churchill stated that there was a correction on page 2: it should read the property is 2.68 acres; a correction on page 4: it should read up to the farm. C. Kinnie asked for a motion.

MOTION: R. Parrette moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 16, 2016 as amended. L. Churchill seconded the motion. There were four aye votes and 1 abstention from C. Kinnie. The motion was carried.

5. Matter Presented for Consideration

A. **CC 19-17 DEAN, EARL, 238 STONE HILL ROAD, GRISWOLD, CT.** Requesting approval for residential activity within a wetland or watercourse for restoration and maintenance of a pond. The property is zoned R-60.

C. Kinnie asked if there was someone to represent this application. Jason Snide was present. C. Kinnie stated that there is an amended application in the file. C. Kinnie stated that the commission had questions about the plan last month and he asked members to address their questions to Mr. Snide.

C. Kinnie stated that he could not attend the site walk. He asked how many members had attended the site walk and the previous two meetings. All four members present had attended the previous two meetings and the site walk.

L. Churchill stated that there was a question last month about where the machinery was going to be and what specific areas that were going to be dredged. J. Snide stated that the owner wants to leave the road side for the cat tails and the animals; he wants to work in front of Earl's house and the back end of the pond where the dam is. P. Merrill asked if he was going to get to the pond from only that one side. J. Snide stated that he would get some of the other side but mostly the road side; he stated that Earl wants to leave the road side. L. Churchill stated then the machinery is not going into the pond. J. Snide stated no, he is not going to drive around like he wanted to.

J. Snide stated that they do want to drain the pond by siphonage. He stated that Earl says the dam stops flowing water in the summer. J. Snide stated that he will run one or two pipes through the dam and he will clean out a small area and run the pipe deeper and go through the dam into the wetlands; He will fill the pipe up with water and use a valve to let it go and it should pull the water through the dam to lower the pond so he can see what he is doing. P. Merrill stated that you are going through the dam, don't you mean over the dam.

J. Snide stated no, there are four pipes that are 12 inch or 14 inch pipes in the dam. P Merrill stated so you are not making another hole through the dam. J. Snide stated that he would put the pipe through the pipes already in the dam; he won't disturb the dam.

R. Parrette asked if that much more water going into the wetland would disturb the wetlands. P. Merrill stated that he can regulate the water with valves and he can use a 2 inch pipe. J. Snide stated that he will start off with a 3 or 4 inch pipe and if that doesn't work he will put two pipes; he stated that he can slow it down or stop it with the valves. There was discussion of this matter. J. Snide stated that he did not want to have a pump running all night to lower the pond because it would keep neighbors up.

L. Churchill stated that he does not have to consult DEEP since he is running a pipe through the dam; it was only if the dam was to be removed. R. Parrette stated that he is not altering the dam; he is going through an existing pipe in the dam.

L. Churchill asked if the owner is thinking of putting the dredge material to the areas we talked about. J. Snide stated no; it will be stockpiled on the other side of the house next to the roadside that is next to his lawn and the green house and woodchip pile. R. Parrette asked what the duration of the stockpile at that location would be. J. Snide stated that it will be there about two weeks. R. Parrette stated that it will stink. J. Snide stated that he can treat it with a lot of lime.

R. Parrette asked what his process was to get the sediment out of the pond to where he was taking it without it leaching out of what he was transporting it in. R. Parrette stated that he was concerned for the water-borne fines. J. Snide stated that he will pull it up on to the bank and let it dry out two or three days or so; then scoop up the material and stockpile it on the other side of the house. R. Parrette stated that when the material is dumped, all the silt and water will go back into the pond. J. Snide stated that's why he wanted to drain the pond so most of the liquid will be gone. There was discussion of this matter. L. Churchill suggested lining the edge of the with hay bales to filter out the silt from going back into the pond or use silt fence. P. Zvingilas stated to line the edge with hay bales. J. Snide stated that the hay bales would work better than silt fence.

R. Parrette asked what the duration to do the work is. J. Snide stated that he did not know how long it would take to drain the pond; but he thought that it would be about a week to do the work. R. Parrette stated that would be from when you start digging; and that is just what you can reach with the 23 foot boom? J. Snide stated yes. He stated that it will be as far as the bucket can reach and he won't drive around the pond.

C. Kinnie stated that the key thing here is dewatering the pond so you are not working in the water so that the material being removed is semi-solid so as not to create turbulence and turbidity in the whole pond. He stated the key is dewatering and if this proposal does not work then you will have to go with a pump. J. Snide stated right.

C. Kinnie stated to let the record show that G. Norman arrived at 7:45 p.m.

R. Parrette asked if there was a DEEP issue for intentionally dewatering a wetland into a wetland. C. Kinnie stated that there already is a spill way that goes into the wetland; the issue is that as long as there is no silt and sediment going into the wetland and what you are pumping out is clean water. C. Kinnie stated that in looking at the photographs of the wetland, it is expansive and it can handle the volume coming out of that pond. J. Snide stated that there is a clearing, is there a pond back there. L. Churchill stated yes, there is another pond.

R. Parrette stated that you are sticking with the dam part and up the property side and up to where it is coming in from the storm drains. J. Snide stated yes, there is a brook that runs under the road that comes from Arrowhead when there is a lot of rain. R. Parrette stated he is coming up from where the road meets his property back toward the dam; the L-shaped area; and that he was not coming on the road side. J. Snide stated no, Earl wanted to leave the road side stuff there. J. Snide stated that he like the idea of cleaning out the beginning of the pond where that brook comes in; and that one spot can be cleaned out instead of the whole pond. G. Serdechny stated that he would make that area deep to collect the silt and sediment; the water will be slowed down somewhat and it drops out. P. Zvingilas stated that it can be done since we haven't had as much rain.

C. Kinnie asked M. Tristany if there was concern with an Army Corp permit. M. Tristany stated that he spoke with Chuck Lee and DEEP and asked him if they had information on this dam. He explained to Chuck Lee the size of the pond and if they had any information on that dam. M. Tristany read for the record a letter received from Peter

Spangenberg, DEEP Dam Safety Program regarding Ludwick Pond Dam D5821 a Class AA dam registered by Earl and Susan Dean on 6/21/84 as a negligible hazard dam and that no inspections or permits are required for work and technical assistance can be provided. C. Kinnie stated that this pond does not need inspections.

M. Tristany asked if J. Snide had checked the storm basins in the road that come into the pond; he asked if the sumps were full. J. Snide stated that he did not look at them so he did not know if they have been cleaned out. He will check on them.

C. Kinnie asked members who walked it what they thought of this proposal. L. Churchill stated that it sounds better than at the beginning and she thought it was doable. P. Merrill stated that the hay bales should be firmly in place. M. Tristany suggested burying six inches of the hay bales and staking them. J. Snide will dig a trench for the hay bales. R. Parrette stated that he should do what G. Serdechny suggested for the deep well. C. Kinnie stated that it is not in their proposal.

P. Merrill asked J. Snide where the septic tank was located since it was shown on the plan and he was concerned about driving over the tank. J. Snide stated that the septic tank is more towards the house but he did not know how far the leach field goes; but it doesn't go to the woods line; he tried to get the as-built for the leach field; but A. Gosselin does not have any record. There was discussion of this matter that all records if existing are at Uncas Health District.

R. Parrette stated that the application does not discuss the deep well that G. Serdechny suggested so that you could not do it. C. Kinnie stated that J. Snide can amend the last revision of his application to add the deep well. R. Parrette stated that it should have the length, width and depth of the deep well. J. Snide stated that the brook is not as wide as the table; the pond is about four feet deep at the road. C. Kinnie asked if he can reach it with his boom. J. Snide stated yes. M. Tristany asked the distance of the pond from the road so the road is not undermined. J. Snide stated that the pond is 45 ft. to 50 ft. from the center line of the road. P. Zvingilas suggested staying about ten feet from the outlet side of the pipes. G. Serdechny suggested to graduate the depth of the well.

C. Kinnie asked J. Snide to amend his application and initial it to include the deep well. J. Snide amended and initialed his application for a 10 x 10 x 8 foot deep well dated July 20, 2017.

C. Kinnie asked for other questions from members. P. Merrill asked if it was initialed on the revised application. C. Kinnie stated yes. M. Tristany suggested that the sketch in on the plan of where he intends to do the excavation of the deep well so that it matches the application. C. Kinnie asked J. Snide to amend the plan and initial it. J. Snide amended and initialed his plan and dated it July 20, 2017.

C. Kinnie asked for any questions for Mr. Snide. L. Churchill asked about the septic leach fields. J. Snide stated that he knows where the septic tank is; he just isn't sure of the leach field location. He can ask Earl where the leach fields are located. P. Merrill stated that the location of the tank on the property is more important because of contamination. G. Serdechny asked if the hay bales needed to be on the map. P. Merrill stated no, but that it needed to be in the motion. There was discussion of the conditions for the motion.

R. Parrette suggested that the ZEO go out to look at e and s installation of the hay bales with a 6 inch trench, e and s measures at the stock pile for the residual, and that neighbor complaints for the smell will be addressed immediately.

C. Kinnie appointed R. Parrette secretary pro tem. C. Kinnie asked for a motion.

MOTION: L. Churchill moved to approve CC 19-17 revised application and with revisions dated July 20, 2019 and with the following stipulations: 1) that a line of hay bales shall be used to mitigate run off of dredge materials; 2) work area shall be dewatered so that material must be semi-solid; 3) no sediment shall pass to adjacent wetland; 4) all work shall be done from the shoreline - 23 foot reach; 5) prior to excavating, zoning enforcement officer shall be notified to inspect erosion and sedimentation controls; 6) if neighbors complain about the smell, corrective action shall be taken immediately. R. Parrette seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

5. Additional Business (New Applications)

C. Kinnie stated that there are new applications. He asked for a motion to place these on the agenda. R. Parrette moved to place CC 01-18 Eileen A Quinn on the agenda. G. Serdechny seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

A. CC 01-18 QUINN, EILEEN A., PROPERTY AT 1627 GLASGO ROAD, GRISWOLD, CT. Installation of a floating or wheel-iron dock not to exceed 30 feet maximum extension into the pond; installation of a sand beach not to exceed 30 feet in width; and to clear brush, undergrowth and small trees in the beach area as well as selective clearing within the upland review area to provide access from existing trails. Plant shrubs and seed area around beach with approved grasses. Property is zoned R-60.

C. Kinnie asked if there was someone to represent this application. Kevin Franklin, Licensed Land Surveyor, presented this application. He explained that Eileen Quinn, his mother in law, owns lot 3 of Hatch Hill Subdivision, he owns lot 1 and his brother in law, Brian Quinn, owns lot 2. He stated that there has been a dock which has been a slapped together dock north of the view of the map; he showed the location of the existing dock facing the islands since the Quinns have been living at the farm since 1980.

K. Franklin stated that the existing dock is out of view of the houses that are built on lots 2 and 3. He stated that three boats have been stolen from the existing dock area. He explained the photographs that are part of the file. He stated that the existing dock will be abandoned and/or removed from the water; and the new dock will be put in a location where it can be seen from both houses. He stated that they will thin out some of the smaller trees and leaving the signature trees so they can see the new dock and this area will have a lived in look; and they can hook up a camera if it becomes a problem.

He stated that the regulations allow for a 30 ft dock. He hired a certified soil scientist, John Ianni, who delineated the wetlands which are 4 ft. to 6 ft. from the edge of the pond. He stated that he surveyed in the pond during the drawdown of the pond to show the elevations in the water to find the shortest access to the deep water.

K. Franklin stated that he spoke with surveyor Brian Florek and their property manager, Art Christian, of DEEP regarding the jurisdictional elevation of 159.52 ft. He stated that they did a title search and they had a map showing dates and a map showing an iron bolt in a stone. He submitted these maps for the record. He stated that DEEP searched their records and DEEP does not know how they came up with the 159.52 ft. elevation. K. Franklin stated that he searched for the boulder next to the church along the river and stated that he found a boulder with drill holes in it. He stated that the 159.52 ft. elevation is the top of the bank. C. Kinnie asked if that was consistent with the high water mark. K. Franklin stated yes.

K. Franklin stated that they wanted to put in a small sand beach that is 30 feet in width with a picnic table, some grass and a grass path that connects to some of the existing trails. R. Parrette asked if he was going to excavate for the beach or just bring in sand and dump it. K. Franklin stated that he was just going to bring in sand and dump it. He stated that it is very sandy soil there when you dig down a few inches. He stated that they don't intend to use any machinery in the pond; they may use a backhoe to clear out some stumps; but they anticipate that this will be a family rake and shovel project.

R. Parrette asked what the volume of sand was that he planned to bring in. K. Franklin stated that he had not calculated the volume of sand. He stated that he had a 4 x 10 dump trailer and stated possibly 2 dump trailer runs, about 4 to 6 yards. R. Parrette asked what the dock will consist of. K. Franklin stated that the dock will be something safe for the kids; something non-splintering; something prefabricated from Shore Master of Webster, Massachusetts that clips together; they can start with two eight foot sections and add another 8 foot section if necessary. C. Kinnie asked how it would be anchored. K. Franklin stated that they have friends at Ashland Pond who have a roll-in dock that they roll into and out of the pond that acts as a floating dock.

L. Churchill asked about erosion of sand into the pond. K. Franklin stated that they had not anticipated installing any type of barrier or wall. L. Churchill stated no, she was not sure that was an issue nor not. He stated that it would be graded so that it would be a natural beach blended into the pond. C. Kinnie stated that the only issue would be if you would-be removing large trees and stumping; it doesn't sound like you are. K. Franklin stated there are a lot of nice maples and oaks and that they would be removing trees that were 12 inches or smaller.

R. Parrette asked what the agenda for a path for the equipment to get to the beach was. K. Franklin stated that it would be about 8 feet to 10 feet wide for a four wheeler. He stated that they were not planning to put in gravel; it will be a grass path. L. Churchill asked if there was a house on this property. K. Franklin stated that there is no house on this lot 3. L. Churchill stated that there is nothing that goes in from the road. K. Franklin stated no. He stated that their two houses near this lot 3 that have trails to this lot where they can drive equipment down.

R. Parrette asked that for next month, to provide the volume and depth of the sand for the beach. M. Tristany stated that detail activity map has a different configuration for the dock. K. Franklin stated that the shape of dock was not set in stone; it was just to depict a dock, it may be a tee or it may not depending upon the depth. R. Parrette asked about the 30 foot length of the dock. K. Franklin stated that the 30 foot length comes before the 30 inches.

C. Kinnie asked for other questions for Mr. Franklin. P. Merrill stated that all the activity is coming from the adjacent lots that are owned by you and your brother in law. K. Franklin stated correct. P. Merrill asked if he was using an excavator. K. Franklin stated that his brother in law has a backhoe and a tractor; we will use the tractor depending on how hard it is to get the stumps out. P. Merrill stated that he would be concerned with removing so many stumps. K. Franklin stated that there were not that many large trees in that location; he stated that he would make a more surgical approach for the location of the dock by shifting the location two or three feet to the right or left to spare as many trees as possible.

C. Kinnie asked for a motion.

MOTION: G. Serdechny moved to accept CC 10-18 and to table to the next regular meeting on August 17, 2017. R. Parrette seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

C. Kinnie stated that we have another application under new business. R. Parrette moved to put CC 02-18 Adam Vernott on the agenda. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

B. CC 02-17 VERNOTT, ADAM, PROPERTY AT 118 KENWOOD ROAD, GRISWOLD, CT.B Excavation of the hillside, removal of all stumps and debris, placement of filter fabric along slope, chain large stones and rip rap as a base in order to create a revetment to prevent erosion of the pond waterfront.

C. Kinnie asked if there was someone to make this presentation. Adam Vernott, owner of Ocean County Construction is an ocean construction company that makes sea walls, revetments, jetties, piers and docks. He stated that he was approached by Mrs. Vanover who was experiencing erosion at her house on Pachaug Pond. She stated that she did not want a wall but she wanted something that will stop the erosion.

He explained that he would build a revetment that was a sloped stone hill using large boulders that would have no impact on the pond to keep everything in place. R. Parrette asked if we are talking about the entire width of her property. A. Vernott stated yes. C. Kinnie asked what is there now. A. Vernott stated that there is scrub brush and small boulders on the other side of her property. P. Merrill asked if she is having a problem with erosion. A. Vernott stated yes, it is a steep hill that goes down to the water and that she is an older woman who wants to keep everything from eroding from the rain from the property and from the boats going by on the pond. He stated that the revetment would also help to keep pollution from going into the pond. He explained that they dig a small slope and cut the grade that they want and place filter fabric in, then chain large boulders and sediment fence, and behind that they put 6-8 inch rip rap stone to lock the boulders in place, and with with toe stone on the bottom. He showed pictures of revetments he has built to the commission members.

P. Merrill asked if she owns the property to the water or is this property line. D. Szall stated that she printed those to show information from Google of what the shore line looked like and that you cannot get those lines off to print it. L. Churchill asked if this area is where you will build the revetment. She asked what kinds of shrubs were there since plants help keep erosion from happening. A. Vernott stated that the problem is that this is a steep slope and the water goes down and erodes the hillside and the boats erode the bottom which undermines the slope which makes the top fall in.

P. Merrill asked if the toe stone is at the water. A. Vernott stated yes. C. Kinnie asked Mr. Vernott if he was aware of any correspondence from DEEP. A. Vernott stated yes, he has been dealing with Jamie Sydorik of DEEP and he has filed any information that she has asked for. He stated she did send him a reply but did not say that he could not build a revetment there but that he could go about it in a different way using vegetation as opposed to using stone. He stated that it has not been shut down; they didn't say no. He stated that this meeting was his second step.

C. Kinnie asked the Town Planner to read the letter into the record. M. Tristany read the letter dated July 13, 2017 from Graham J. Stevens, Office Director, addressed to Ms. Dolores Lori Vanover, 118 Kenwood Road regarding

their concerns for a less expensive alternative solution using natural plantings for Mrs. Vanover's needs and the pond for a stone wall and suggesting speaking to Peter Zvingilas, Wetlands Enforcement Officer.

M. Tristany asked A. Vernott if he assumed the elevations on his plan. A. Vernott stated that the elevations came from her construction drawing of her house. M. Tristany stated that they make reference that it is being built into the lake which DEEP owns and they will make you remove it. A. Vernott stated that it is not to disturb the lake, and they refer to it as a wall; but it is not a wall; it is a sloped stone structure using natural boulders allowing water to percolate through the back side through the filter fabric into the lake as a better alternative to a wall. G. Serdechny asked if DEEP knows that what you are talking about is not a wall. R. Parrette asked if the revetment is along the whole width of the property. He asked if she will still have access to the pond. A. Vernott stated correct.

C. Kinnie stated R. Parrette suggested that there be a site walk. C. Kinnie asked members if they agreed. There was consensus by members that there should be a site walk.

M. Tristany stated that these elevations on this site plan are assumed. C. Kinnie asked that for next month his site plan have elevations based on the 159.52 ft. elevation of the pond and to show the appropriate grading. C. Kinnie stated that A. Vernott send this updated information to DEEP as well. A. Vernott asked for an explanation of DEEP ownership. C. Kinnie stated that DEEP owns the flowage rights and below the 159.52 elevation and that you need their approval below that elevation.

A. Vernott stated that he could build the revetment slightly above that elevation. He will update the site plan. C. Kinnie stated that A. Vernott sends new correspondence to DEEP and his new plan and that he has met with the Wetland Commission.

C. Kinnie state that we need to set a site walk. There was discussion of this matter. G. Norman suggested an alternate Saturday for the site walk. A. Vernott will contact the land owner about the site walk for August 5 at 9 am.

MOTION: R. Parrette moved to hold a site walk for CC 02-18 at 118 Kenwood for August 5, 2017 at 9 a.m., with an alternate date August 12, 2017 at 9 a.m. dependent upon landowner approval. G. Norman seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

L. Churchill moved to accept CC 02-18 and table it to the next regular meeting on August 17, 2017. R. Parrette seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

C. Kinnie asked for a motion to move Item 12 to the before Item 7.

MOTION: R. Parrette moved to place Item 12 before Item 7. G. Serdechny seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was carried.

12. Conservation Commission Matters

C. Kinnie asked Mr. Gluck to give his presentation on the Pitch Pine Harvest.

A. Presentation by Emery Gluck, Forester, Cockaponset State Forest, Division of Forestry, Bureau of Natural Resources, Connecticut DEEP regarding the history and importance of Pitch Pine and the harvest and the management plan to withstand a Southern Pine Beetle infestation. at Hopeville State Park

Emery Gluck gave his presentation of a history of pitch pine and scrub oak, where it was located in Connecticut and in New England and what its uses were for turpentine and tar. He explained how the harvest program helps to control the Southern Pine Beetle by removing trees to create a more open canopy for pitch pine and scrub oak growth. E. Gluck explained that the harvest for the 40 acres of pitch pine in Hopeville Forest will take place this year in the fall by the staff at Hopeville State Park by keeping the larger pitch pine trees with the bigger crowns which are healthier. There was discussion at the end of the presentation. C. Kinnie thanked E. Gluck for coming to the meeting.

7. Reports from the Enforcement Officer

P. Zvingilas stated that there was a brook under Stone Hill Road at the other end off of Hurst Farm Arrowhead Drive, there is a property owner who has been cutting trees on his property and up to and along that brook which is on the town property which is 5 or so acres. He stated that the first selectman is considering having him arrested for cutting trees on town property. There was discussion of this matter.

P. Zvingilas stated that the work on Quiet Cove for two houses that went in at the end of Quiet Cove, the silt fences have been maintained and there have been no problems.

8. Old Business

There was no old business.

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Communications

A. Rivers Alliance of Connecticut letter regarding the State Water Plan and a request for a donation.

C. Kinnie asked if we had any information on the State Water Plan. M. Tristany stated that he had not seen anything on it. C. Kinnie stated that they are looking for comments. L. Churchill stated that in the letter it says that it is the first one and it is on their website. C. Kinnie stated that it is going to be like what the Federal Government wanted to do; but they backed off. C. Kinnie asked members about a donation. There was discussion of this matter. C. Kinnie stated that Item A be tabled to the next meeting to determine how much is in the budget and who is given donations.

B. Aspinook Hydro, LLC Notice of Joint Agency and Public Meeting on July 26, 2017 at 10 am in the Town Hall Meeting Room for Wyre Wynd Hydroelectric Project P-3472 to discuss Federal energy Regulatory Commission re-licensing of the project and to solicit information regarding the existing environmental resources and to obtain comments regarding the Project re-licensing

M. Tristany stated that this was an informational public meeting. L. Churchill asked which environmental resources they are talking about. C. Kinnie stated they are talking about the Quinebaug River at Wyre Wynd. He stated that he would be attending this meeting which will be at the Griswold Town Hall meeting room. .

C. Connecticut Land Conservation Council letter dated June 29, 2017, for 2017-2018 Organizational Membership

C. Kinnie stated that they are looking for a membership fee. C. Kinnie stated that Item C be tabled to the next meeting to determine how much is in the budget.

11. Reports from Members

There were no reports from members.

12. Adjournment

C. Kinnie asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: G. Norman moved to adjourn. G. Serdechny seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Szall
Recording Secretary