

**CORNWALL INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 5, 2021
HELD BY ZOOM MEETING/RECORDING ON FILE**

Present: Regular members Debby Bennett, Peter Demy, Bill Hurlburt, Roger Kane and IWWO Karen Griswold Nelson.

Absent: D. Stevenson Hedden

Land Use administrator Griswold Nelson opened the meeting at 7:07PM with a quorum established. All members were seated for the meeting with regular member and Vice chairman in at 7:15PM and chairing the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October regular Zoom meeting minutes.

Motion made by Mr. Hurlburt, seconded by Mr. Demy, to approve the October meeting minutes with following corrections; Alternate Peter Demy was seated for Roger Kane, (not Debbie Bennett) and the change to Debbie Bennett's name to Debby Bennett (and in all future minutes); unanimously approved (Bennett, Hurlburt and Demy)
Roger Kane in.

NEW APPLICATIONS AND PETITIONS FOR DECLARATORY RULINGS

App#648 - Rudolph and Lisa Marie Melk owner/applicant - Activities within regulated areas for the construction of a driveway to a single family residence - Lot 18- Valley Road.

Information made part of file:

App#648 including application, DEEP reporting form and Site plan "Site Plan prepared for Rudy Melk, Lot 18, Valley Road, by Hrica Associates LLC dated 12/28/92020" (received electronically and transmitted to Agency members with hard copies on file in the Land Use office.)

Ken Hrica, PE with an office in Litchfield and representative for the applicant/owner was in attendance. With note made that the Land use office had received documentation that afternoon giving written permission (application requirement #j) for Commission members to visit the site, it was agreed that Mr. Hrica would give basic details and that a full presentation would be postponed to the February meeting. Mr. Hrica gave basic details as to the location of the site, the shared driveway as approved in the original Coltsfoot Valley subdivision already installed for the second home site, and the proposed location of the single family residence and some basic stormwater features as part of the site plan submitted. Note was made by Commission member Hurlburt of his personal familiarity with the driveway construction.

Motion made by Mr. Hurlburt, seconded by Mrs. Bennett, to accept **Application #648**, make no determination of significance and to table discussion until the February regular meeting

PDR-4-2020 - Town of Cornwall - Installation of beaver protectives devices by Town hired professional, Michael Callahan/Lake Road Bridge over the Hollenbeck and College Street town right of way- East Cornwall.

Information made part of the file included the Petition, written correspondence including "Beaver Solutions - Fence and Pipe Flow Devise", "Why Give a DAMN" and Beaver Solutions TM - Maintenance Guarantee" and photographs of the two installation submitted by Mike Callahan.

Griswold Nelson gave an overview of the background of the Petition and her administrative approval, stating that she had been contacted by highway supervisor Jim Vanicky regarding his conversations with Mike Callahan, owner of Beaver Solutions LLC to address some beaver related issues by mid-December. Griswold Nelson that she had contacted IWWA commission members prior to her approval to move forward to beat the mid-winter December storms. Griswold Nelson addressed previous work with Mr. Callahan on the Rattlesnake/Cogswell Road/Cornwall Conservation Trust applications and his cooperation with the Town and the Land Use office that had created a good working relationship protective of both the Town's concerns (water over the road, etc.) and the Trust's concerns to protect the bird and beaver habitat on the Rattlesnake Preserve.

There was general discussion of the need for collaborative work and education to address both the concerns of any impacted parties, (i.e. the Town and the Conservation Trust) relating to beaver and their place in the built landscape in the future.

Motion made by Mr. Hurlburt, seconded by Mrs. Bennett, to determine that **PDR-4-2020** constitutes an as use as of right use for maintenance to town property for health safety and welfare purposes; unanimously approved.

PDR-5-2020 - Mason Lord/Hudson Valley Preservation applicant/Cream Hill Lake Association – owner – Borings for investigation of re-construction of the Cream Hill Lake Association club house – 238 Town Street.

Information made part of the record including Petition submitted by Hudson Valley Preserve, 12/31/2020 email from Daniel Lamesa, downtoearthconsulting.com outlining the proposed three geotechnical borings, and misc. documentation regarding the plans to make improvements to the existing Cream Hill Lakehouse.

Daniel Lamesa, principal of Down To Earth Consulting, LLC, (Naugatuck, CT) with experience and a special focus on geotechnical, geostructural, and hydrogeological engineering, addressed the methodology, timing, and supervisory process for the proposed borings.

Griswold Nelson addressed her support for the status of a Petition for a Declaratory Ruling" as it was similar to allowing the investigation of sites for septic locations with wetlands and watercourses without formal full regular applications being submitted. Griswold Nelson stated that any part of any re-construction of the Cream Hill Lake Association club house would require the submission of a details application for regulated activities and approval by the agency.

Mr. Lamesa agreed to be in contact with the Land Use office regarding the timing of the borings so as to allow Commission members the opportunity to observe the work.

Motion made by Mr. Hurlburt, seconded by Mrs. Bennett to determine that **PDR-5-2020** constitutes as of right application for the Cream Hill Lake Association to investigate activities associated with the reconstruction of Association Club house; unanimously approved.

PDR-6- 2020 – John D. & Catherine McMahon - owners/applicants – Agricultural structures within regulated areas/expansion of farming activities – 240 College Street, With note made by staff that the Petition constituted the placement of an additional structure with regulated areas for the expansion of faming activities

Motion made by Mr. Hurlburt, seconded by Mrs. Bennett to determine that **PDR-5-2020** constitutes as of right application according to Section 4.1a for the placement of agricultural structures as part of an existing agricultural operation; unanimously approved.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS: None.

UPLAND REVIEWS AND APPROVAL BY AUTHORIZED AGENT. None.

INLAND WETLANDS OFFICER REPORT

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED.

OTHER BUSINESS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION.

Meeting dates Year 2021

Motion made by Mrs. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Demy, to approve the meeting dates for the year 2021 – January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, November 2 and December 7, 2021, all meetings to comment at 7PM by zoom until a return to the Town Hall; unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Hurlburt, seconded by Mrs. Bennett, to adjourn at 7:43PM: unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Griswold Nelson

