

## TOLLAND INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Thursday, August 18, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Hicks Memorial Municipal Center

21 Tolland Green

**Members Present:** Lee Lafountain, Chairman  
Stan Tetrault, Secretary  
Brendan Marinan, Alternate

**Absent Members:** Archie Tanner, Vice Chairman  
Joe Bushey, Regular  
Beth Banning, Regular  
Patti Hollay, Alternate

**Others Present:** Linda Farmer, Director of Planning and Development  
Jennifer Usher, Town Engineer

### REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order at 7:11pm. Seat Marinan for Bushey.
2. Accept Minutes of the July 21, 2011 meeting.

Agenda item tabled due to lack of voting quorum.

Accept Minutes of the August 4, 2011 meeting

Agenda item tabled due to lack of voting quorum.

3. Public Comments

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **1. Discussion with Linda Farmer regarding review procedures for Town projects.**

Farmer said she and other the town employees have been having meetings at the direction of Werbner to develop processes to ensure that Town regulations are followed during Town construction projects.

Farmer said the Town is considering a project at 94 Tolland Green. This property is across from St. Matthews Church. Farmer said there is a detention basin on site that is not functioning properly and that it overflows on to the road. Farmer asked what kinds of permits might be needed to create or repair the basin. Lafountain said if a developer wanted to build or repair a detention basin and the developer may be working in a regulated area, discussion with the Wetlands Agent would be required and a permit would most likely be necessary. Lafountain said normally a soil scientist would flag the wetlands and then bring it to the commission for a permit.

Usher asked for clarification regarding how wetlands are defined. Lafountain and Lowrey explained that wetlands are defined by soil type and vegetation i.e.: wetlands plants. Usher said it does not seem financially feasible to ask a Wetlands Agent to sample every project. Lafountain said technically by regulation a soil scientist should be consulted.

Farmer suggested that an agenda item be included for town projects at every wetlands commission meeting. Lafountain suggested that guidelines be developed for "emergency repairs" and what would be required regarding permitting and notification of the Commission. Farmer suggested that the Wetlands Agent and Commission develop educational programs to teach Public Works Employees about proper construction techniques when work in regulated areas needs to be completed including erosion/sedimentation controls.

Farmer said Werbner was very concerned about Baxter Street and is committed to making improvements so issues like that do not occur again.

Usher said she would like some guidelines from the Commission regarding of what kinds of projects need to go to the wetlands agent and what types of projects need to go to the commission. Tetrault asked if other towns have these kinds of process guidelines.

Lafountain said the public watches everything that is done in Town and wants equality in project permitting and management.

Usher described conditions at 94 Tolland Green. She said the basin used to 2 outlets but currently there is only one. She said the project would include restoration of the basin to include the second outlet. The property owner is going to give an easement for the pipe and then run it into a second basin. Usher said she reviewed historical photos and it appears that there was an outlet pipe that day lighted into a swale and then the water flowed into a stream. She said it seems that when the property was developed, the swale disappeared and the pipe was capped. Lafountain said he thinks the water comes from the St. Matthews parking lot, bypasses the basins entirely and runs down the driveway. Lowrey has provided a map and believes that the basin is out of the regulated area. Lafountain said that Lowrey is not a licensed soil scientist and that a soil scientist should map the property. Lafountain said if it is determined that it is in the regulated area it could be a wetlands agent issued permit but would require a formal plan and additional information. Lafountain said he would consult the regulations regarding detention basins.

Lafountain asked Lowrey if he thought the basin is in the regulated area. Lowrey said there maybe regulated area involved based on the vegetation. Usher said the basin would be designed for a 50-year storm. Farmer said she would contact Ianni to map the area. Lowrey reviewed the regulations regarding the buffers. Lafountain said if the basin is in a regulated area it would require a permit. Lafountain said he is fairly confident for this project he is comfortable with Lowrey's assessment of the soils and wetlands on the site.

Farmer said the Town would be consulting the Wetlands Agent when completing permits. Farmer and Usher agree that Wetlands Agent will assist with the completion of the permit paperwork

**IWC #563-Nordic Builders: 305 Mile Hill Rd.; Requesting permit to reconstruct a curtain drain in the Upland Review Area and muck out a sediment pond in a watercourse.**

Because Lafountain needed to leave the meeting, and therefore, no quorum was present, this agenda item is tabled to the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

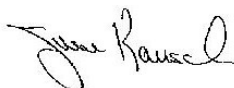
Receipt of Applications: none

Tetrault/Marinan: motion to adjourn.

Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 7:33 pm

Respectfully submitted,



June Kausch  
Clerk, Inland Wetlands Commission