

**INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
TOLLAND, CONNECTICUT**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF
May 5, 2011**

Members Present: Archie Tanner, Vice Chairman
Stan Tetrault, Secretary
Joe Bushey, Regular (arrived 7:10 pm)
Beth Banning, Regular
Patti Hollay, Alternate
Brendan Marinar, Alternate

Absent Members: Lee Lafountain, Chairman

Others Present: Steve Lowrey, Wetlands Agent
Steve Amedy, IWC # 588

REGULAR MEETING

1. Call to Order at 7:08pm.
Seat Hollay and Marinar for Lafountain and Bushey

2. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Acceptance of the April 7, 2011 meeting minutes

Banning/Tetrault: motion to accept the minutes of April 7, 2011 as presented.

Unanimously approved. Marinar abstained.

3. Public Comment: none

Bushey arrived at 7:10pm. Marinar unseated.

OLD BUSINESS

IWC #558 – Stephen Amedy: Remove sediment from inlet to pond and construct an accessible sedimentation basin to protect pond in future. Hunter Rd. Village at Crystal Springs.

Amedy reviewed the conceptual plan and requested the Commissioners assistance in developing a permanent solution to the sediment problem. Commissioners had previously approved a plan to clean out the pond and Amedy is coming before the Commission now with a plan to create some type of basin to capture the sediment so the pond would require less maintenance. Amedy said the work was not done this past winter because the snow had created insulation and the ground did not freeze as Amedy had hoped. Amedy presented a map for the Commission to discuss a practical place to dig a basin. Banning discussed possible locations for the basin and some rocks being added to the stream to slow flows. Banning said sediment is naturally coming from the brook and will require routine maintenance regardless of what is put into place. Banning said flow slowing interventions would be helpful.

Lowrey said there is some sediment load from road sand but should be decreasing since the Town is not using sand anymore. Lowrey said Lafountain had identified an area where there may be some bare land further upstream that also might be contributing. Lowrey said he walked that area Lafountain referred to as far as he could and it was all grassed in. Banning identified another property that might be a concern. Lowrey said the water would pass through another pond prior to enter this property and that pond has a high level overflow so should not be dumping sediment into the lower pond. Commissioners

discussed the pond and that there is a brook running through it. Commissioners discussed that the best location for the basin would be close to the pond because this is a naturally occurring problem.

Amedy invited Commissioners to help site the pond when the time comes for construction. Amedy said he would need to construct a temporary path to the pond for the equipment; width of path would be based on the width of the machine. Lowrey said the idea would be to bring the brook into a deep spot for the sediment to settle and create a meander to slow the brook also. Lowrey said the path shouldn't be wider than 10'6" because bigger equipment would require a wide load permit. Lowrey suggested geo-textile under the path to the equipment would not push the stone into the dirt. Bushey suggested not using geo-textile because it would interfere with natural growth of native plants over time.

Commissioner and Amedy discussed the location where some large stones could be placed to decrease flows. Lowrey suggested creating a meander and then riprap at the outflow to continue to slow flows. Amedy said he did not think it would be a problem to create the meander. Commissioners discussed that the meander would be from 15-20 feet above the pond to about 10 feet above the pond. Commissioners discussed possible construction techniques and location alternatives.

Amedy asked how deep the basin would need to be. Lowrey said the pond has filled in 3 feet so the basin should be about 4-5 feet deep. Lowrey suggested that the work be done possibly in August if it should be dry. Commissioners and Lowrey discussed wetlands plans that could be used to re-vegetate the area.

Bushey/Tetrault: motion to conceptually approve excavation of a sediment trap in the brook, the final plan and design to be brought back to the Commission to be reviewed before beginning construction.

Unanimously approved.

Tankerhoosen River watershed: Review of residential properties abutting tributaries and plan to involve them in watershed management plan.

Hollay said she thought the creation of a separate committee to address the Tankerhoosen Watershed project might be beneficial because she wonders if the Commission with its regulatory functions is scaring people. Bushey said the Commission is responsible and additional committee would need to report back to the Commission.

Banning said her goal for this project is to get the garbage out of the brook. Bushey said if it is not releasing chemicals and is not clogging the brook, perhaps things should be left in the brook since it creates habitat. Banning said she would like to narrow the focus of the project to clean up based on the original report.

Bushey said he would like to continue to send literature to property owners at least yearly to remind them of how important their properties are to the health of the brook. Bushey asked if there could be money available for cleanup and restoration. Lowrey said there is money available for these projects but the matching funds are the problem. Bushey said there might be the possibilities for "in-kind" matching of service.

Banning suggested developing a schedule of events. Bushey said it would work best if everyone entered their calendar on – line he could let everyone know where the matches are. Commissioners agreed that target dates should be set for project completions. Bushey said it would be good for a plan to be designed so costs could be estimated so grants could be applied for. Commissioner discussed doing a site walk of trouble spots in and along the Tankerhoosen River on June 18th.

Discuss amendments to the Inland Wetland & Watercourses Regulations, as required by new State Statutes and set public hearing.

Banning/Bushey: motion to table discussion until the next meeting.

Unanimously approved

NEW BUSINESS: None

RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: None

GENERAL BUSINESS

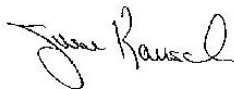
1. Correspondence
2. Other Commission Business
 - a. Banning asked about Campbell's Pond. Banning said she thought that Campbell Pond was going to be dredged this year. Lowrey said there was some discussion but there is currently no funding available. Lowrey said the dam has been breached and sediment has entered the pond. Banning said the sediment has choked out the fish that used to be in that pond.
 - b. Lowrey discussed a property at 47 Willow Creek. Lowrey presented a map for the property and said there is a level spreader in that location which has failed. Lowrey presented a preliminary plan, map, and an e-mail from the Town Engineer with a proposed fix for the failed level spreader. Lowrey said in its present condition, it was not designed or constructed properly and was done to in a way to avoid the requirement of a wetlands permit. Lowrey said the Town is working with Gardener and Peterson to develop a plan that includes creating a basin where the current level spreader is and then discharging the water into a wetlands. Lowrey said the drainage system takes all of Willow Creek Road. Lowrey said the original construction was in 1996. Lowrey said the drainage and conservation easements would need to be modified. Lowrey said this is a progress print to let the Commission know what is being planned. Banning said she would suggest a level spreader instead of a scour hole on the wetlands side of the basin. Commissioners agreed. Lowrey said he was not sure of the flows coming out of the current system. Commissioners agreed that the flow needs to be calculated and considered in the development of the plan. Lowrey said he would bring the Commission's suggestions to the Town Engineer to incorporate them into the plan.
 - c. Lowrey said Sammi Khan has submitted his plan to modify the drainage ditch behind 206 Merrow Road. Lowrey said the plan was drawn by Richard Martel of North Star Surveying and Engineering. Lowrey said he thought that there is significant decrease in ditch width, which the Commissioners decided was unacceptable. Commissioners also expressed concern about the removal of native vegetation. The Commissioners agreed that the drainage ditch was not wide enough to allow the filling that was seemingly proposed. Commissioners agreed that Khan might be able to build a retaining wall at the 548' contour line, but that any more filling might reduce the capacity of the ditch, which would not be acceptable. Commissioners also expressed concern that if there was filling of the ditch, without consideration for the flows that the filled earth would be washed out and that there might actually be an increase in ponding and cause him increased problems.
3. Adjourn

Banning/Bushey: motion to adjourn.

Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted,



June Kausch
Clerk, Inland Wetlands Commission