



TOWN OF HAMDEN

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

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May 13, 2020

MINUTES: THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom telecommunicating technology with the following results:

Commissioners in attendance:

Joan Lakin, Chairperson
Kristin Morico
Lee Campo
Tim Mack
George Schneider
Jonathan Clapp
Mike Milazzo
Lauren Wholey
Mike Stone

Staff in attendance:

Dan Kops, Town Planner
Tim Lee, Assistant Town Attorney
Tom Vocelli, IW Enforcement Officer
Natalie Barletta, Commission Clerk

Ms. Lakin called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Vocelli called the roll and there was a quorum.

A. Regular Meeting:

1. Review and Evaluate Electronic Meeting Procedures

Ms. Wholey said that the procedures seemed good, and asked what would happen if plans needed to be displayed. Mr. Kops explained that anyone who is a panelist can participate in the meeting, whereas participants cannot speak unless the host unmutes them. Mr. Kops said that panelists include applicants, staff, and commissioners, and that there is an option to share screens as well.

Ms. Lakin added that the screens will be really small. Mr. Kops said applicants will be asked to submit PDFs to the website for commissioners and the public to view. Mr. Vocelli added that he will also be delivering plans to Commissioners.

Mr. Vocelli added that the two applications at next month's meeting will be existing permits that are on the verge of expiring. Mr. Vocelli said that the two items will be Town permits for the Tom Swamp Road culvert replacement, and for the clean out of the diversion channel in Town Center Park. Mr. Campo asked if they are going to get the plans before the next meeting. Mr. Vocelli said the plans will be digital letters, and will be emailed to the Commissioners.

Ms. Wholey asked if non-speaking members can be muted. Ms. Lakin said that it will be a good idea for them to do so.

2. Site Inspection Schedule

There are currently no site inspections.

3. Review March 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Schneider said that he found typos in the minutes. The first is on the bottom of page two to delete “could.” The second was on page four, if it could be changed to “brought.”

Mr. Mack added that he wasn’t listed as being in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2020 meeting as amended. Mr. Campo seconded, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

4. Storm Drain Marker Update

Ron Walters, Regional Water Authority Senior Environmental Analyst, said that the Watershed Fund extended the application deadline to May 31st. Mr. Walters added he finished the draft of the application, and it got a very good support letter from the Town and Dan, and from the RWA. Mr. Walters said that the Watershed Fund people would probably decide late this summer.

Ms. Wholey said that the only thing she needs to do is send an email to Mr. Shadle and Mr. Mack to let the Boy Scouts know that it is still happening, and if they are still interested to let them know.

Mr. Schneider said that he was chatting with someone about another issue, and said that the New Haven Demolay Youth may be interested as well. Mr. Schneider said that he will reach out to them once the Commission hears further.

Mr. Mack said that before the pandemic began, he spoke to one of the scout leaders, and there was definitely interest, but everything got put on hold for the pandemic. Ms. Wholey said that was going to be a part of the email that she was going to send to them.

Ms. Lakin thanked Mr. Walters for his hard work on behalf of the Commission, and opened the floor for any further questions. There were none.

5. Other Business

Ms. Lakin introduced Ms. Morico, who is a new member of the Commission.

Mr. Milazzo said that he had two complaints. One was for 305 Spruce Bank Road and the other was for 736 Sherman Avenue. Mr. Vocelli said that he will inspect Sherman Avenue, and he will await Mike’s call to see if there is anything that he was not already aware of at Spruce Bank.

Mr. Walters wanted to let everyone know that RWA is putting in two pollinator gardens. They will be on the east side of Whitney Avenue opposite Deepwood Drive, and the other site is at Waite and Gordon. Mr. Vocelli pointed out that *de minimis* reviews are generally done for pollinator gardens. Mr. Walters said that he will send the draft. Ms. Wholey said that she would be curious to see the seed mix. Mr. Schneider asked if he can be included in the Waite and Gordon inspection.

B. Adjournment

Mr. Milazzo made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Mack, and the vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Natalie Barletta-Clerk of the Commission