

TOWN OF FARMINGTON  
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2024

Present for the online web conference were Acting Chair Isner, Commissioners Fox, Kelsey, Simpson, Statchen. Sr. Assistant Town Planner Cyr was also present. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present in the Development Conference Room was Senior Assistant Town Planner Cyr. All others were present online.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Jennifer Gupta – 70 Woodpond Road

Regulated activity within upland review area to construct a detached garage. This matter is tabled until the next meeting. Ms. Gupta is still working with her engineer to provide the additional information requested by Staff and the Commission.

Winding Trails, Inc. – 50 Winding Trails

Regulated activity within an upland review area for repair of erosion and restoration of the stream embankment at 50 Winding Trails. Commission to make determination as a Permitted As of Right use in accordance with Section 4.A.4. within residential zone or to accept application. Scott Brown, Executive Director of Winding Trails, stated heavy rains from recent storms has created erosion problems along the western stream bank of Popular Swamp Brook along the east side of the Winding Trails main access driveway. The issue has been compounded by heavy plant growth along the easterly embankment trapping floating debris thereby restricting the flow of the stream, causing elevated stream levels, and prompting local failures of the western stream embankment supporting the road. There are two spots in particular where the top of the embankment is within 26in of the road, which are noted on the plan. One is about 70ft in length and the other is about 30ft. Mr. Brown proposed to trim approximately 1,000lf of the eastern bank of vegetation and remove the debris that is restricting water flow; install 100 ft of riprap stone along the western stream bank to help prevent further erosion; place silt socks and install seed plantings along the bank; and topsoil and seed. Brian Cunningham stated the brook has a sandy bottom and as such they will not be performing any maintenance/repair work within the stream itself. Senior Assistant Town Planner Cyr and the Commission asked for additional information for clarification. The trimming of vegetation does not include removal of root systems, just cutting back of vegetation. Since most of the vegetation is invasive, the vegetation will not be chipped and will be hauled offsite. Bank stabilization is the roadside of the embankment only.

The Commission denied the applicant's request to allow the work as a Permitted As of Right use in accordance with Section 4.A.4, as they felt the work was rather extensive and did not fully meet the definition.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Fox/Statchen) it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the Winding Trails, Inc. application for regulated activity within an upland review area for repair of erosion and restoration of the stream embankment of 50 Winding Trails.

After discussion the Commissioners determined they would not conduct a site visit.

#### Cease & Desist – 1509 Farmington Avenue

Update regarding conduct of regulated activity without a permit for property located at 1509 Farmington Avenue. Senior Assistant Town Planner Cyr has been in discussions with the Town Attorney. He is reviewing and will get back to Staff. Further updates will be provided as they become available.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Upon a motion made and seconded (Kelsey/Simpson) it was unanimously

VOTED: To elect Commissioner Statchen as Chair, Commissioner Isner as Vice-Chair and Commissioner Fox as Secretary through October 2024.

#### **PLANNER'S REPORT**

No Planner's Report.

#### **MINUTES**

##### Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion made and seconded (Statchen/Simpson) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the February 7, 2024 Inland Wetlands meeting minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

*SJM*