

TOWN OF FARMINGTON
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

June 19, 2024

Present for the online web conference were Acting Chair Isner, Commissioners Berlandy, Fox, Simons, Simpson, and Alternate Commissioner Tulin. Senior Assistant Town Planner Cyr and Clerk Michaud were 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.

Alternate Commissioner Tulin was appointed to participate in place of absent Commissioner Statchen.

NEW BUSINESS

80 South Road

Regulated activity within upland review area to install a storm drainage system, to the rear of the site, to collect runoff due to seasonally high groundwater conditions, and drain the runoff away from the building foundation and retaining wall. Megan Raymond, SLR Consulting, reviewed her previous presentation from the June 5, 2024 meeting, reviewing drainage conditions adjacent to Building A, the western structure, observed during the spring construction, have necessitated the submittal of this permit modification request. The site lies at the toe of a roadway embankment to the Interstate 84 (I-84) connector; and this landscape position, in addition to seasonally high rainfall this spring, resulted in persistent standing water to the rear of Building A where residential access is designed. To address this, the design engineer Bohler Engineering has proposed the installation of two yard drains (one in the URA) and a flared-end structure that will provide conveyance of clean water in a 12-inch pipe towards the engineered drainage channel. No direct wetland impact is proposed, though the work requires 2,059 SF of additional disturbance within the URA to bury a pipe length of approximately 250-linear feet. Following installation of the pipe, the disturbed area will be seeded with New England Wetmix from New England Wetland Plants. Commissioner Fox questioned whether erosion control would consist of silt fence and straw wattle similar to what was required elsewhere on the project, and Megan Raymond confirmed.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Berlandy/Simons) it was

VOTED: 4 in favor, 2 abstentions (Simpson, Tulin) to approve the 80 South Road LLC and Sager Development LLC application for regulated activity within the upland review area to install additional stormwater conveyance to the rear of site for seasonally high groundwater conditions away from building foundation and retaining wall at 80 South Road as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

All Habitat Services, LLC – 200 Garden Street

Determination of a non-regulated permitted use to remove and manage invasive plants on a residential property within the upland review area, to the rear of the property and east of the Pequabuck River or accept application. Eli Terris, All Habitat Services, stated approximately

one third of an acre on this property has Japanese knotweed on it and they would like to use herbicide and mechanical means to manage/remove. Mr. Terris stated they typically treat the foliage during June/July and then a second time during the August/September/October time frame, and then perform a mulch mow during the winter season when the knotweed is dormant. This process typically takes three years to control the knotweed. The Commission asked how close the area of treatment is to the Pequabuck River. Mr. Terris responded he does not have an exact measurement, but the herbicide being used is also used for invasive water plants. The Commission then asked for confirmation this is a residential property only and for a three-year period of time. Mr. Terris responded yes. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Commission this work as presented is consistent with a residential property use.

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

VOTED: To make the determination that the All Habitat Services, LLC proposal to remove and manage invasive plants to the rear of 200 Garden Street and east of the Pequabuck River is a nonregulated permitted use in accordance with Section 4.B.1. of the Inland Wetlands Regulations.

Senior Assistant Town Planner Cyr asked Mr. Terris to contact Town Staff when work is about to begin.

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 stated there is nothing new to report at this time. Staff will be proceeding through the enforcement process.

PLANNER'S REPORT

504 Main Street Update

Photos of the plantings installed were shared with the Commission to show the process of the restoration plan. The plantings are being watered and the grass around them has been cut as requested by Staff.

MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

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

VOTED: 4 in favor, 2 abstentions (Simpson, Tulin) to approve the June 5, 2024 Inland Wetlands meeting minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

SJM