

Town of Andover  
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission  
Town Hall Community Room, 17 School Road, Andover, CT  
Monday, April 8th, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

Chair, Mike Landolphi called meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

2. Roll Call / Seating of Alternates

Members Present: Mike Landolphi, Rich Osbourne, Wayne Thorpe, Jed Larson  
Alternate Members Present: George Elliott, Jim Hallisey, Meghan Lally  
Absent Members: Ed Smith.

Applicants Present: Owners William Genovese, Joe Genovese and Professional Engineer Chris Bell.

Public Attendees: local herpetologist and conservation biologist Hank Gruner,  
Board of Selectwoman Julia Haverl, Senior Activities Coordinator Cathy Palazzi,  
Katherine Hutchinson.

3. Additions/Changes to Agenda

Meghan Lally MOVED to move Item 8. Conservation Commission Report  
to under Item 5b. New Business.  
Jed Larson SECONDED  
MOTION CARRIED 7:0:0

4. Public Participation

5. New Business

a. Review \*application and Site Walk for William Genovese for activity of property owned immediately west of 497 Route 6, Andover (Lot ID 33/036/000023) Map 33, Block 36, Lot 23. Removal of 33k cubic feet of sand gravel in upland river area.

Wetlands Agent, John Valente reviewed April 1<sup>st</sup> post-site walk 'Preliminary Conservation Recommendations for Amphibians and Reptiles' written review on the proposed gravel extraction site from local resident herpetologist and conservation biologist Hank Gruner.

Hank Gruner explained the recommendations during the three phases: Pre-Extraction, Action Operation and Post-Extraction. He shared concerns of effects that soil disturbances can have on the species. Example being that he has turtles marked from 25 years ago and the loss of one or two turtles can lead to a

population decline. Creating open areas can lead female turtles to move towards the operation. Though during post extraction phase, wood turtles can use the space for population increase and it can be a positive process. Fencing will be a positive infrastructure if used earlier rather than later. He will show engineer how to relocate the turtles if seen during the project. Also recommended specific type of syncopated fencing structure to be used for the hog nosed snake to escape area. This could be an opportunity to enhance the wood turtles and other wildlife habitat for species. Post-project, the private property with nesting turtles will not be accessible to the public and to post 'no trespassing' signs.

John Valente announced that applicant and engineer have been very cooperative regarding the recommendations, specifically on how to implement them and modify the plans accordingly. John asked commission to be prepared to make a decision at the next meeting.

Conservation Commission Chair and Planning & Zoning member Mike Palazzi arrived at 7:44 P.M.

John Valente stated that Planning and Zoning Commission requested that Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission sends a report after this meeting with the species listed as a concern with close proximity to wetlands.

Chris Bell P.E. would like to address all of the habitat issues before start of the project.

Hank Gruner stated that species are coming out of hibernation and are currently on river/pond banks, before moving off of the banks later in the season. Wetlands Agent, John Valente checking to see if the Town of Andover can issue a permit to install the fence prior to commission approvals.

#### b. Conservation Commission Report by Chair Mike Palazzi

Presented debate over trails in back of the school. Recently walked the trail with John Valente and Jeff Murray of Bike Walk Andover. Jeff is the organizer of races and would like to add another ½ mile of trail in drylands. Commission asked Jeff to move part of trail near fire station from wetlands to drylands. Original parts of trail close to wetlands and have been removed.

Stated that on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> Wetlands Agent John Valente, P&ZC Member & CC Chair Mike Palazzi, IWWC Alternate Meghan Lally and resident Tom Talbot walked the property of land parcel to be donated by Tom Talbot to the Town of Andover. It a land-locked property with mostly drylands. Conservation Commission to host an official meeting to evaluate property.

At the Board of Selectman meeting, John Valente addressed the current trail relocation process. BOS confirmed that with all future trail building and other activity on town land, Wetlands Agent John Valente will be instituting a formal procedure through the Building Department and addressing it to the appropriate commission for approval.

Public Participation left.

6. Old Business

- a. Review draft Lake Regulations, pending P&ZC approval.

Document presented on projector screen for all members to view.

John Valente shared he will be meeting with the ALMA Board of Directors to discuss regulations and sewage ordinance in cooperation with the Town of Andover. Health department has to evaluate properties to determine size of septic system that would best serve homes in the future that will have any additions, due to possible contamination of lake due to overload of septic system. Town of Andover will require new septic system to be installed before any additions to home/property. Regulations to enforce record keeping history of all septic tank pumping. Goal is to maintain and increase the property values surrounding the lake, remaining out of abatement.

- b. Discuss updating IWWC Regulations to be in compliance with legislative changes.

Document presented on projector screen for all members to view.

John Valente announced changes made to the fee structure as Meghan Lally made edits to the document.

- c. Review IWWC ByLaws.

Document presented on projector screen for all members to view.

Meghan Lally edited the 'Order of Business' section 9.1.

John Valente stated that the state/CROG requires filing 35 days prior to a Public Hearing. Proposed a Public Hearing at June or July meeting for Regulations and a decision to vote on ByLaws at the May meeting.

7. Approval of March 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes and April 1<sup>st</sup> Special Meeting Site Walk Minutes

Meghan Lally MOVED to accept the March 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes.

Rich Osbourne SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 6:0:1 (Wayne Thorpe abstained).

Meghan Lally MOVED to accept the April 1<sup>st</sup> Special Meeting Site Walk Minutes with the following edits: Hank Gruner identified as a local herpetologist and conservation biologist, removal of Wayne Thorpe as not present, P&ZC Scott Person listed only once, Chair Mike Landolphi called meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

Jed Larson SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 5:0:2 (Wayne Thorpe and Rich Osbourne abstaining)

8. Administrative Report by Wetlands Agent John Valente

Shared that Planning and Zoning Commission requires any commission meeting to have a recording by state statute. Town Administrator does not wish to have formal site walk meetings with a Board Clerk recording and completing minutes. Commission members to conduct informal site visits with up to only two members.

Discussed details of the visit on Sunday with Scott Person, Hank Gruner and Neil Hagstrom whom did not feel the trail could continue to go through the wetlands area near the dam. Goal is to connect the commissions and build relationships. Conservation Commission honors experts stating that no activity should be directly adjacent and upstream of the dam.

Gave update on property of Vincent Grimaldi, stating it was significant wetlands activity and family will be submitting an application.

9. Public Participation

None.

10. Adjournment

Meghan Lally MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 P.M.  
Wayne Thorpe SECONDED  
MOTION CARRIED 7:0:0

Meeting Minutes helpfully submitted by Board Clerk, Amanda Gibson

*Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.*