

RECEIVED

By Linda Amerighi at 1:10 pm, Dec 14, 2023

TOWN OF SHARON
Inland Wetland & Watercourse Commission
PO Box 385, 63 Main Street, Sharon, CT 06069

Draft minutes until approved at next regular meeting

December 11, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Krissel at 6:30 PM with the following members in attendance: William Trowbridge, Sharon Tingley, Mike Dudek, Scott Schreiber, Larry Rand, Robin Zitter and Alt. Lynn Kearcher. Also present: Casey Flanagan, First Selectman and Jamie Reid, Road Foreman and Eileen Fielding of Sharon Audubon. Site visits were made on December 9, as posted, by Krissel, Dudek, Zitter, Tingley, Trowbridge, Schreiber, Rand and Kearcher with no action taken.

2. The agenda was approved as posted via motions of Rand/Tingley.
3. Minutes of the November meeting stood approved as posted.
4. **Communications:** a) No Public Comment. b) No Communications.
5. **Old Business:** a) Pesticide Sub-committee – no new information

6. New Business: a) **Town of Sharon – Five Year Maintenance Plan:** Recently elected First Selectman Casey Flanagan and Road Foreman Jamie Reid were in attendance to discuss the existing five-year maintenance plan on file. It was noted that Mr. Reid has continued to keep the office notified of all town projects, as is requested under the permit. The Commission has concerns regarding major projects and repairs – many of which may require an engineer. Apparently not used in the past – use and implementation of the DEEP Connecticut Storm Water Management Guide was encouraged by Commission members to be reviewed and adopted by the Town. The revised plan is now available and goes into effect March of 2024. Mr. Reid and Mr. Flanagan agreed to download this important tool.

Any application involving private property and wetlands requires an application signed by the landowner. There are instances when the Town may need to conduct work on private property, and all agreed this was not covered under the blanket permit. Discussion involving town employed sub-contractors ensued with all in agreement that as long as the Town (First Selectman, Board of Selectman and Road Foreman and Crew) took responsibility of the work being done and the notification to the town, this would be covered under a new permit.

With regard to pesticide and invasive control – it was determined that any spraying will not be a part of the plan/permit, but an application would have to be submitted for each and any specific treatment. Ms. Zitter stressed that the Crew needs to be mindful of invasives during road maintenance, care to not move soils into wetlands and not to dump any materials near wetlands. With thanks for their time, Mr. Flanagan will complete an application for presentation at the next meeting.

b) Eileen Fielding was in attendance to discuss a pre-application for major renovations and construction contemplated by **Sharon Audubon at the 325 Cornwall Bridge Road property**. This was a site visit. Revised site plans (A and D) were passed out following her description of the existing center which is nearing the end of its useful life. Committees did consider the gutting and renovation of the existing center but have opted to move forward with plans for a new center and new rehabilitation center. Members expressed concern with anything new being considered in the upland review area – and they would like to see alternatives. Ms. Fielding was thanked for her time and urged to return with any information on the planning process.

7. Applications to accept: None

8. Any other business: Robin Zitter has ideas on program implementation for the Commission to undertake in efforts to educate and involve our residents. There is money available through the Walter Turkiewicz grant – this will appear on our next agenda for discussion. Lynn Kearcher has the revised “Disposing of Invasive Plants” brochure – it was agreed to have 400 printed. At the next meeting, it will be discussed how to distribute this revised brochure.

We adjourned at 7:35 via motions of Tingley/Zitter with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Jamie Casey

Land Use Admin/Clerk

Next meeting: Monday, January 8, 2024. Site visits would be conducted 8 AM on January 6th – starting at Sharon Town Hall.