

MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order:** Mark Parker called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm
- II. **Roll Call:**
 - Members Present:** Mark Parker, Marla Butts, William Rewinski, Michael Thienel, Stuart Peaslee
 - Members Excused:** Diane Wolff
 - Noted for Record:** Quorum
 - Others Present:** Tina Lajoie (Inland Wetlands Agent), Terri Lasota (Recording Secretary), Brenda Freudenburger, Russ Dowd
- III. **Appointment of alternates:** None
- IV. **Action on minutes of previous meetings – February 4, 2019:**
 - W. Rewinski **MOVED** to **APPROVE** the 02/04/2019 meeting minutes as presented;
 - M. Butts **SECONDED**; **MOTION CARRIED 4:0:1**; M. Thienel **ABSTAINED**
- V. **Old Business**
 - a. **Complaint of water diversion at 692 Rte 197 – Continued discussion:**

Mrs. Freudenburger provided an emailed letter from her husband who could not be present at this meeting.

Agency members reviewed the survey and topographical maps of the area in question, and discussed the debris pile, stone walls and water flow. Mr. Dowd presented new photos for the Agency members to review, which depicted the flow of water and stone wall, and agreed this meets the requirements of an intermittent watercourse, and due to the various vegetation, it would appear this has been a long ongoing issue. M. Butts added there is no definite burden of proof to take an enforcement action.

Mr. Dowd felt the proposal in Mr. Freudenburger's letter to the IWWA was reasonable and felt a compromise could easily be worked out, adding that his original request was to simply move the obstructions several feet so water could flow. He saw no need to cement the stone wall, but questioned the removal of 20 trees which he felt was excessive. Mr. Dowd noted he was willing to get a tree expert to determine which trees pose a clear threat to the Freudenburger's property and have those trees pruned or taken down; he also hoped this could be handled from his side of the wall as to not incur any damage to the Freudenburger property but said if that happened, repairs would be made.

Mr. Dowd commented that his nephew is moving out of state and will not be building on this property, and added that most of his land will instead go to the Roxbury Land Trust. He added that if the Freudenburger's were willing to move the debris piles a little, he would be willing to take care of the trees that pose danger. M. Butts said this would be an agreement between and up to the property owners.

Brenda Freudenburger explained that moving the debris pile would allow the water to flow into her leech field.

B. Freudenburger, R. Dowd, and the Agency members discussed moving the debris pile, and alternately moving stones from the wall higher up on the hill to allow the water to instead flow into the gorge. Mr. Dowd felt that solving this would continue to send water across his fields.

R. Dowd and B. Freudenburger discussed and reached their own agreement to leave everything as it is. The complaint was withdrawn.

VI. New Business

a. Discussion of budget and staffing issues:

M. Butts reviewed the Board of Selectmen's budget and pointed out the part time staff note on page 1 which noted part time staff includes Zoning Enforcement Officer under the direction of the BOS, part time Inland Wetlands Agent, and part time BOS executive secretary. She also commented that a summary of expenditures has been requested several times, adding that it is not clear how much goes into each of those positions.

M. Butts felt the IWW Agent should be listed under the IWWA commission budget, as functions of agents should be listed in their respective commissions for transparency. She was also disappointed the IWW Agent was only allotted 3 hours weekly rather than the 6 hours weekly that was requested.

M. Butts said when the previous Building Official left last year there were no wetlands funds – the funds were into building official position.

The IWWA members discussed their concern of losing T. Lajoie who was not only the Building Official Assistant, but also the Wetlands Agent and ZEO. As there will be no one filling these positions until new personnel are hired there is no one able to officially accept wetlands applications.

M. Butts read a portion of the CT General Statute Section 8-7d which referred to the process for submitting applications that must be followed in this situation; the applications must be time/date stamped upon receipt by the Town Clerk and presented to the First Selectman. M. Butts said she would draft a letter to the BOS regarding this process.

The IWWA members discussed how to handle the meeting agendas during this time, and determined to use a basic agenda as listed per the IWWA bylaws. They also discussed and agreed the commission should be asking for the same budget amount as they had previously and will draft a letter of request to the Board of Selectmen.

VII. Wetlands Agent Activity Report:

T. Lajoie gave her final Wetlands Agent Activity report, which included the following:

Only one application pending which needs an agent sign off;

Correspondence from Windham Water works regarding the Willimantic Reservoir, and correspondence from Eastern CT Exclusive Surface Area WUCC declaration form, which should have been sent to the Selectmen since they are not IWWA related;

