

## INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES AGENCY

### REGULAR MEETING

Monday, May 4, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.

In accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC, members of the IWWA participated in the meeting via ZOOM online.

### MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order:** In Chairman Mark Parker's absence, Vice Chairman William Rewinski called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
- II. **Roll Call:**  
**Members Present:** Stuart Peaslee, William Rewinski, Victor Peabody, Marla Butts  
**Members Absent:** Mark Parker  
**Quorum:** Yes  
**Others Present:** Tina Lajoie, Steve Pikul, John Barber, Phyllis Bonneau, Thomas Gotta, Calisto Bertin
- III. **Appointment of Alternates (if necessary):** None.
- IV. **Action on minutes of previous meeting of February 3, 2020:**  
**Motion** was made by Marla Butts, and **Seconded** by Stuart Peaslee, to **approve** the minutes of the February 3, 2020 IWWA meeting as presented. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- V. **Pending Applications:**
  - a) **03-20-03 – NW Swadia LLC dba North Woodstock Country Store (proposed automobile service station)**  
Supporting documentation provided by Bertin Engineering relative to this application was distributed to the Commission members prior to the meeting. Marla Butts stated that by virtue of the application date, the application was statutorily received on March 31, 2020, which is 35 days after submission to the town hall. The deadline was extended 90 days due to COVID-19 Executive Order 71, part 19. Thus, the maximum deadline would then be September 2, 2020 without any additional extensions.  
  
Ms. Lajoie confirmed she received a letter from the town engineer on May 4 regarding the application, which she in turn emailed to all Commission members. Further, she received an email from the applicant stating they would comply with the conditions outlined in the town engineer's letter. Last, Ms. Lajoie confirmed that she emailed Ms. Butts' communication requesting additional information from the applicant. Ms. Butts requested that Tina Lajoie mail her request to the applicant, as well.  
  
Calisto Bertin of Bertin Engineering was invited to speak. He provided a brief overview of the project and shared some aspects of the original plan and current plan. Marla Butts asked Mr. Bertin if he would provide revised drawings that would clarify the items listed in her letter. Mr. Bertin confirmed that all engineering items will be addressed prior to the next IWWA meeting of June 1, 2020.  
  
No action was taken on this item. The Commission will review the additional information requested from the town engineer and Marla Butts once it's received.
- VI. **New Applications:** None.

VII. **Preliminary Discussion:** None. This item was added to the agenda in error.

VIII. **Administrative Business:**<sup>1</sup>

a) **Bylaw approval – Changes as indicated on 02/03/2020 minutes.**

The revised Bylaws were distributed to IWWA members prior to the meeting. Proposed changes discussed at the February 3, 2020 meeting included revising page 3, item 8a, to reflect meetings be held on the first Monday of each month rather than the third Monday.

Ms. Butts noted that an incorrect version of the Bylaws was included in the packets. Specifically, page 4, item 9, Order of Business, which reflects a version that pre-dates June 17, 2019.

**Motion** was made by Marla Butts, and **Seconded** by Victor Peabody, to **approve** only the modification recommended at the February 3, 2020 meeting to reflect meetings be held on the first Monday of the month (page 3, item 8a), and all other provisions of the Bylaws as approved on June 17, 2019 remain as is. **The motion passed unanimously.**

b) **Wetlands Agent Activity Report:** It was agreed that Tina Lajoie will email the Wetlands Agent Activity Report to IWWA members.

c) **Bills – Woodstock Villager YMCA Legal Notice:** The cost of the legal notice was \$29.40. This item was emailed to Chairman Parker for approval. No action was required by the IWWA members.

d) **Communications:**

- **Tom Gotta and John Barber – 119 Crooked Trail Extension, Copper Sulfate**  
Tom Gotta shared additional information regarding the copper sulfate contamination concern at 119 Crooked Trail Extension, which the IWWA requested at its last meeting. He provided a brief summary of the supporting materials and new information since the last meeting.

Mr. Barber reported that the Lake Association took water samples at four locations on the lake. They were given to Phoenix Environmental Laboratories in Manchester for analysis. One of the samples taken at the lake where Mr. Gotta's property abuts 119 Crooked Trail Extension had a reading of 174 (15 times more heavily laden with copper than the other locations). A safe reading is between 14 and 25 micrograms per liter. It was suggested there is extensive runoff of sulfate into the lake that is questioning aquatic life. The Lake Association and Mr. Gotta will be sharing these new findings with the DEEP.

As a result of these new findings, Mr. Gotta is requesting that the IWWA petition the DEEP to conduct a water solubility test to determine the level of copper sulfate in the soil. Further discussion ensued.

**Motion** was made by Marla Butts, and **Seconded** by Victor Peabody, to write a letter on behalf of the IWWA requesting the DEEP provide the IWWA with all

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<sup>1</sup> Subheadings under Administrative Business may include, as needed, Wetlands Agent Reports, Communications, Bills, Complaints, Investigations, Enforcement, Requests for Permit Extensions / Transfers, Election of Officers, Budget Requests and Other.

information and documentation they have acquired to-date, as well as any further steps they will be taking on this issue.

The motion was opened to discussion. Mr. Gotta was concerned the motion was insufficient due to the new development surrounding the high copper reading of 174 from the water samples. He encouraged the Board to also request the DEEP conduct a water solubility test.

After further discussion, Ms. Butts **modified** the original motion to include in the letter the IWWA also recommends the DEEP pursue a water solubility test on 119 Crooked Trail Extension. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Barber will send the complete water sample report to Tina Lajoie for distribution to the IWWA members. It was suggested that William Rewinski, Marla Butts and Tina Lajoie craft the letter to the DEEP.

Mr. Rewinski asked if further action may be warranted to control erosion into the lake. Mr. Gotta explained some of the supporting photos he had provided to the IWWA on this matter.

**Motion** was made by Stuart Peaslee, and **Seconded** by Victor Peabody, to **authorize** the Wetlands Agent to conduct a site visit and record observations relative to potential erosion issues and determine whether further action is immediately warranted. **The motion passed unanimously.**

- **Connecticut Federation of Planning & Zoning Quarterly Newsletter**

This newsletter was included in the IWWA packets as an information item.

- IX. Citizens' Comments:** Tom Gotta and John Barber thanked the IWWA members for taking the time to address the situation at 119 Crooked Trail Extension.
- X. Adjournment:** **Motion** was made by Marla Butts, and **Seconded** by Victor Peabody, to adjourn. **The motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocBf9JIXGFk>

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Brown, Recording Secretary. **DISCLAIMER:** These minutes have not yet been approved by the IWWA. Please refer to next month's minutes for approval/amendments.