

TOWN OF SOMERS
Conservation Commission
600 Main Street
P.O. Box 308



REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2021
MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Joan Formeister at 7:02 pm. Commissioners in attendance were Daniel Fraro, Drew Kukucka, and Lise Wood. Also in attendance were Recording Secretary Tara Comrie and Wetland Agent Joanna Shapiro.

Joan Formeister made a motion to seat Lise Wood for Karl Walton.
Drew Kukucka seconded.
All in favor. Motion carried.

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Discussion/Possible Decision: Application #756:** 121 Scully Road. Construction of single family home in the Upland Review Area. Kumiega, Bonnie Drumm and Peter A III. Permanent boundary markers were suggested by Agent Shapiro.
Drew Kukucka made a motion to approve Application #756: 121 Scully Road. Construction of single family home in the Upland Review Area. Kumiega, Bonnie Drumm and Peter A III. with the condition of permanent wetland boundary markers.
Daniel Fraro seconded.
All in favor. Motion carried

2. **Discussion/Possible Decision: Application #758:** 349 Main Street. Expansion of parking and drainage improvements in the Upland Review Area, with drainage outfall within created wetland. Driving Range 349 Main Street LLC.

Tim Coon from JR Russo was present along with Jonathan Murray, representing the property for Sonny's Place.

Mr. Coon reminded the commission about the changes planned that were discussed at the previous meeting. He stated that the existing drainage ditch to which yard drains are piped into will be cleaned out, and reconstructed. They are planning to add to the existing parking areas. Soil and erosion control barriers will be put in place. Protection at the double size catch basins will include an oil trap hood. Mr. Coon specified that the basin is sized for twice the water quality volume needed for the parking area. Swale will be installed with hay bale check dams and established with vegetation quickly.

Joan Formeister asked how close the parking spaces are to the wetland boundary and Mr. Coon stated that they will be a minimum of 50 feet away.

Joan Formeister asked what the relocated access road will be used for. Mr. Coon stated that it will be used for legally required emergency access, plus deliveries and employee parking. It will be relocated slightly from its current placement. The runoff across the access road goes into the swale currently and will continue to do so.

Agent Shapiro reminded the commission that the swale is not a regulated watercourse as per delineation by Rick Zulick.

Drew Kukucka asked about the construction timeline and was told that it will begin and end in Spring 2022.

Agent Shapiro stated that she had a concern about the impervious surfaces and their potential for impact on the Scantic. She suggested that the grass seed used should be a specific wetland mix for the basin and swale. Mr. Coon stated that the final plans will specify a suitable wetland seed mix for the basin and swale, and that engineers at J.R. Russo can supervise during the stages of the project that are sensitive to the wetland.

Lise Wood made a motion to approve application #758: 349 Main Street. Expansion of parking and drainage improvements in the Upland Review Area, with drainage outfall within created wetland. Driving Range 349 Main Street LLC, with the condition that a suitable seed mix be used in the basin and swale as discussed.

Daniel Fraro seconded.

All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Discussion/Possible Decision: Application #759: 10 Eleanor Road. Grading and utilities in the Upland Review Area, associated with construction of single family home. Steven Riley

Agent Shapiro reminded the commission that there are no wetlands on the property. The plans were originally approved with the driveway in the upland review area but it is no longer proposed there. The plans only require grading near the septic within the upland review area.

Drew Kukucka made a motion to approve application #759: 10 Eleanor Road. Grading and utilities in the Upland Review Area, associated with construction of single family home. Steven Riley

Lise Wood seconded.

All in favor. Motion carried.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed 2021 Meeting Dates

Daniel Fraro made a motion to approve the proposed 2021 meeting dates.

Lise Wood seconded

All in favor. Motion carried.

Add item to agenda. Modification of #728 240 Durkee Rd New home in Upland Review Area. Richard Leno.

2. Modification of Application #728: 240 Durkee Rd. New home in Upland Review Area. Richard Leno.

The original plan was to have the driveway come off of Four Bridges Rd. Now the driveway will be on Durkee Rd. Agent Shapiro stated that the house location didn't change. The septic will be further from wetland, and the driveway will also be further from the wetland, so it appears to be a positive change overall.

Drew Kukucka made a motion to approve the modification.

Daniel Fraro seconded

All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – NONE

V. STAFF REPORT

Agent Shapiro went to 90 Pond Circle and took photos. She saw that they had already planted around 63 apple trees in three rows parallel to the slope leading to the wetland. They seeded between the existing treeline and new apple trees to be future pasture. They removed the stumps and soil that had been deposited on the slope, and planted a few blueberry bushes. They plan to add more blueberry bushes and let the area leading up to the wetland be wild.

Shady lake is working toward a dam repair per the requirements of DEEP. They previously cut trees that were on the dam and Agent Shapiro is helping figure out what improvements can be done before they receive their DEEP dam safety permit for the main repairs.

Phase 2 on Shady Lake Rd. Working on getting an as-built for the basin for future maintenance before the development is finished.

135 Bilton farm property. The property has had a lot of flooding. The farm road has been impassable. The crossing was years ago without a permit, yet the Commission deemed it exempt after the fact. Agent Shapiro suggest that it might benefit from engineering review.

There have been a few inquiries about adding garages on tight properties with wetlands.

Agent Shapiro is going to look at access issues on land trust properties McCann and possibly Durkee, to assess potential improvements.

Lise Wood made a motion to accept the staff report.
Daniel Fraro seconded
All in favor. Motion carried.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS:

Agent Shapiro presented a \$51.94 JI bill to the commission.
Drew Kukucka made a motion to approve paying the JI bill.
Lise Wood seconded
All in favor. Motion carried.

CACIWC sent out a notice for their annual meeting this Saturday, virtually.

VII. MINUTES APPROVAL: October 6, 2021

Lise Wood made a motion to approve the minutes from October 6, 1982.
Drew Kukucka seconded.
All in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Lise Wood made a motion to adjourn at 8:06.
Daniel Fraro seconded.
All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tara Comrie, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING