

**Brooklyn Inland Wetlands Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2017**

The Brooklyn Inland Wetlands Commission held a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. on the following:

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jeffrey Arends, George Sipila, Richard Oliverson, James Paquin.

Members Absent: Demian Sorrentino with notice.

Roll Call: All members present stated their name for the record.

Staff Present: Martha Fraenkel, Wetlands Agent, Audrey Cross-Lussier, Recording Secretary.

Also Present: Bruce Woodis, Vaney Murillo, Don Dubois, Janice Beazley, Chuck Catsam, Aaron Kerouac, public in attendance.

Additions to Agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes:

1. Regular Meeting Minutes November 14, 2017.

A motion was made by George Sipila to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 14, 2017. Richard Oliverson seconds this motion. No discussion held. Motion passes unanimously.

Public Commentary: None.

New Application Receipt:

1. 121217A Pierce Memorial Baptist Home, 36 Vina Lane, Map 24, Lot 148, VCD Zone; Construction of proposed generator powered by diesel fuel on concrete pad with underground electric conduit connections. No proposed disturbance of wetlands.

Bruce Woodis from KWP Associates along with Vaney Murillo from Consulting Engineering Services, Inc. represent application 121217A.

Pierce Baptist Home/Creamery Brook Retirement Village is proposing to install an emergency backup generator. The current one is insufficient to supply their needs when there is a power outage. The generator will be placed behind the big building and in front of the cottages behind a

row of existing arborvitaes. The unit is 8-9 feet wide, 32 feet long and 12 feet high. The disturbance is within the regulated area. There is limited excavation. The unit will sit on a concrete pad. The unit runs on diesel fuel. There is a double walled tank with leak detection system. If there was a leak from the fuel tank an alarm system would sound off.

Vaney Murillo, Consulting Engineering Services discusses the fuel tank. The secondary containment has up to 110% capacity in case of a fuel leak. In the case of accidental spillage from fueling there is an overfill valve which prevents the spilling with a 5-gallon capacity bucket. The tank is made of steel and holds approximately 3,000 gallons. Mr. Murillo stated the generator can run up to 36 hours before refueling is necessary. He stated the intent is to run the entire facility. The current system only runs on emergency circuits.

Mr. Woodis asked if this could be considered for an agent approval so PZC can grant their approval. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Arends asked what will happen to the existing generator. Mr. Murillo stated it will be removed.

Ms. Fraenkel stated the generator is not the issue, it is the diesel fuel. If the tank and secondary containment were to rupture, there would be an issue; this is approximately 80 feet from wetlands. From the generator/tank to the wetlands there is very little topography.

Mr. Paquin asked how far behind the existing arborvitaes/parking will the generator be placed. Mr. Woodis stated approximately 15 feet. Mr. Paquin suggests that bollards be placed approximately every 5 feet for extra protection. Mr. Woodis stated they can be added. Mr. Woodis would line them up opposite of the edge of the stairs going in both directions. Ms. Fraenkel asked Mr. Paquin at what intervals should be specified. Mr. Paquin stated standard engineering practice.

Chairman Arends polled the Commission with regards to making the application duly authorized. All members are in agreement.

A motion was made by Jim Paquin to make application 121217A duly authorized. George Sipila seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

Ms. Fraenkel commented she will ask Syl Pauley, PE for specs on bollard spacing.

Public Hearings: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. DR17-007 Timber Harvest Barrett Hill Road, Map 19, Lot 9-Owner Madenjian, Forester-Dubois.

Don Dubois, Forester, represents application DR17-007. The location is Barrett Hill Road. This is a selective thinning involving removal of approximately 37,000 board feet and 75 cords of firewood. Ms. Fraenkel and Mr. Dubois looked at the proposed stream crossing. A corduroy crossing was proposed, however, portable bridges will be placed instead as the ground will be frozen. The purpose of the timber harvest is to remove trees with defects and deformities, dying trees due to gypsy moth. This is the second intermediate harvest to be done. Mr. Dubois reviews the site plan with Commission Members.

Chairman Arends asked Mr. Dubois when the project will be completed. Mr. Dubois commented without any unprecedented interruptions within one month.

Mr. Oliverson asked why the bridge and not corduroy. Mr. Dubois stated that bridges are available to be used and are more effective with less disturbance. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Richard Oliverson to approve DR17-007 as a declaratory ruling. Jim Paquin seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

2. DR17-008 Janice Beazley-applicant; Eastern CT Forest Landowners Association-Owner; Request for declaratory ruling under farming exemption for land clearing in the regulated area, Hartford Road just east of the intersection with Cherry Hill Road, Map 10, Lot 7.

Janice Beazley and Chuck Catsam, residents of Cherry Hill Road represent application DR17-008. Ms. Beazley stated she has put a deposit on the property and would like to clear it for grazing and raising of beef cattle. It is currently overgrown wooded area. The property is not adjacent to their house lot, so their intention is to ask the neighbors for access.

Ms. Fraenkel visited the site and walked the property with Ms. Beazley. This used to be a pasture and the wetlands can be easily seen. The clearing activity is all within the regulated area. Ms. Fraenkel stated there are two issues here. One is clearing of the property as a by-right use, the second is a future wetlands crossing.

Existing access to the parcel is from Route 6 (Hartford Road). Ms. Fraenkel discussed with Commission Members the future of a wetlands crossing permit. The owners would like feedback from the Commission as to whether this has any future at all. Site plan reviewed. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Jim Paquin to approve application DR17-008 as a right of use to clear the lot. George Sipila seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes.

Chairman Arends recommends the applicants consult with Ms. Fraenkel with regards to the future wetlands crossing permit. Perhaps Syl Pauley can comment. Ms. Fraenkel suggests that the applicants contact Don Dubois, forester with regards to use of temporary wooden bridges. Chairman Arends also recommends contacting Joe Theroux, soil scientist. Ms. Fraenkel also suggests conferring with Demian Sorrentino, soil scientist, member of the Commission.

Ms. Fraenkel will work with the applicants regarding plans for the future path and its best alternative method to filling wetlands with gravel fill material .

3. 2018 Meeting Schedule.

A motion was made by Jim Paquin to accept the 2018 Meeting Schedule. George Sipila seconds this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

Communications:

1. Budget Update. Commission Members reviewed.

2. CACIWC Quarterly News Letter Fall 2017. Ms. Fraenkel reviews with Commission Members, specifically an article about failure to protect State of CT open space from sale.

3. Society of Soil Scientists Annual Registry 2017. Ms. Fraenkel has a booklet which lists all of the licensed soil scientists in the State of Connecticut if members wish to review.

4. Wetlands Agent Monthly Report.

McDonalds – a notice of intent was received that some minor site modifications will be made-upgrade to the façade, parking lot changes. There is no watercourse or wetlands that causes them to be doing work in a regulated area. There are no changes to the impervious surface and no changes to drainage. Ms. Fraenkel will write a no jurisdiction letter.

Keith Hoyt, Hickory Lane – Mr. Hoyt brought in Joe Theroux, soil scientist for the project. Mr. Theroux closed the project down for this year, will resume in the spring. At this time, there is too much water out there. The project is approximately 80% done.

Permit for Road Construction – Ms. Fraenkel reviews case law review with regards to permit for road construction (for farm operations). Discussion ensued.

Decision of CT Siting Council -- Proposed Quinebaug Solar Project, Wauregan and Rukstela Road. The Siting Council has denied the application due to environmental impacts, inadequate storm water management and protection of wetlands resources. Applicant had failed to meet the deadline for supplemental information. The applicant may reapply at any time with no restrictions as this is a preferred project and exempt from new rules. Discussion ensued.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Richard Oliverson to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Jim Paquin seconded this motion. No discussion held. All in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

Audrey Cross-Lussier, Recording Secretary