

TOWN OF ESSEX Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

Officers

Michael Furgueson, Chairman David Kirsch, Vice Chair

29 West Avenue • Essex, Connecticut 06426 Telephone (860) 767-4340 • FAX (860) 767-8509 Regular Members
Ernest Cook
Noreen Brennan-Rowe
Carolyn Field
Alternate Members
Lisa Krall
Kathleen Sullivan Sealey

November 14, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes Draft

Attending Members:	Absent Members:
David Kirsch, Vice Chairman	Michael Furgueson, Chairman
Noreen Brennan-Rowe	Ernest Cook
Carolyn Field	
Lisa Krall, Alternate	
Kathleen Sullivan Sealey, Alternate	

Staff:	Danielle Schumacher, Recording Clerk	
	Carey Duques, Land Use Official	
	Robert Doane	

1. Call to Order and Seating of Members

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Vice Chairman David Kirsch. Seated for the meeting were Vice Chairman David Kirsch, Noreen Brennan-Rowe, Carolyn Field, Lisa Krall (alternate), and Kathleen Sullivan Sealey (alternate).

2. Approval of Minutes

a. October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION made by C Field to approve the October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes as submitted; **SECONDED** L Krall, **Voting in Favor:** D Kirsch, N Brennan-Rowe, C Field, L Krall, K Sullivan Sealey; Opposed: None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 5/0/0;

Discussion: No Discussion

3. Public Comment

None

4. Public Hearings

None

5. Unfinished Business/Action Items

None

6. Receipt of Applications/New Business

None

7. Section 12 Action by Duly Authorized Agent

None

8. Other Business

a. Referral Section 140L-ZBA Application 23-18 13 Novelty Lane Essex

C Duques explained that this is a referral from ZBA. The Essex Yacht Club is proposing to add an addition for an elevator shaft. The zoning regulations say that any work within the coastal jurisdiction needs to come before the commission for input. The Health Department has already approved it but the Gateway Commission will review the proposal. As far as construction goes, they will need to dig down slightly for the base of the elevator.

She went on to point out the silt fencing on the plan.

N Brennan-Rowe said that everything seems reasonable and the proposed work is clear.

D Kirsch said that the plans look sufficient along with the sedimentation and erosion controls.

C Duques said that this will go on to ZBA next for their November meeting.

b. Approval of 2024 Meeting Calendar

MOTION made by L Krall to approve the 2024 Meeting Calendar as submitted; **SECONDED** by N Brennan-Rowe, **Voting in Favor:** D Kirsch, N Brennan-Rowe, C Field, L Krall, K Sullivan Sealey; Opposed: None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 5/0/0; **Discussion:** No Discussion

c. Update on GIS wetlands mapping

C Duques said that this is on her list now that the agenda is pretty quiet. She will have something for the next meeting. Her goal is to start with the most recent applications and go back to where her predecessor left off.

9. Correspondence and Invoices

None

10. Reports:

a. Wetlands Official

i. Update on Open Permits

C Duques said that she went out to the Copper Beech both today and several weeks ago. The Cease and Desist was confirmed at last month's meeting. The Commission agreed on the installation of the choir logs along the stream, removal of debris piles, and cutting down of invasives.

She went on to say that she received an email from Frank Perrotti dated November 13, 2023, regarding that the following items have been done:

- Debris fields were removed with one small pile remaining (being used as they continue to manicure the area)
- One pile of topsoil that will be used as needed.
- The knotweed and other invasives have been cut down outside of the wetland area.
- The watercourse is now lined with native stone according to the plan.
- Sedimentation fencing has been installed and is working effectively. They opted to install more fencing than originally on the plan instead of the choir logs.
- Large stones were added to the radius of the buffer area to ensure the wetlands will not be entered with a vehicle (an additional field change)
- The wetlands have been sprayed with a Glyphosate herbicide per the plan. When the invasives begin dying off they will begin clearing the area by hand.

Exhibit A- Email from Frank Perrotti dated November 13, 2023

Commission members agreed that a site walk of the area would be best and that they would schedule via email.

C Duques went on to say that she will be checking on the applications that were given permission to work within the no work period.

R Doane said that the project at 118 Ingham Hill Road with the pond had the driveway roughed in the last time he was there. The pond area is dug down to about 4 feet and they are now starting to work on the house site.

ii. Educational Flyer

D Schumacher passed a rough draft of the brochure around to board members

b. Chairperson

None

11. Update from Attorney Regarding Pending Litigation

C Duques said that the plaintiff's brief is due on Monday November 20, 2023 and that Sylvia is working on her response.

12. Adjournment

MOTION made by N Brennan-Rowe to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM; **SECONDED** by C Field; **Voting in Favor:** D Kirsch, N Brennan-Rowe, C Field, L Krall, K Sullivan Sealey; Opposed: None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 5/0/0; **Discussion:** No Discussion

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Schumacher