

**INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – MAY 27, 2014
WOLCOTT TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MINUTES 6:00 P.M. PAGE 1 of 5**

Note: These are summary minutes. A tape recording of this meeting is on file in the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Office, Wolcott Town Hall.

Chairman Garrigus called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance and attendance was taken.

Members Present: Mark Garrigus, Brian Lanese, Richard Tucker, Chris O'Brien, and Ed Myer

Members Absent: Bill Harpin

Alternates Absent: David Hamel and Ryan Bessette

Approval of Minutes:

- Regular meeting on April 22, 2014

Upon **MOTION** by Ed Myers, seconded by Brian Lanese, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the April 22, 2014 Regular Meeting.

- Public hearing Meeting May 13, 2014

Upon **MOTION** by Brian Lanese, seconded by Ed Myers, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the May 13, 2014 Public Hearing meeting with Chris O'Brien abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were none.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Garrigus stated that they had 16 signoffs since last month.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were none.

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PUBLIC REQUESTS

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

- Permit Application #14-004 The Extension of the Walking Trail at Scovill

Chairman Garrigus stated that they had their public hearing two weeks ago and a lot of information was given. Since then he received a call from Army Corps. of Engineers. He noted that he was back and forth with Paula Kullberg from the Army Corps. Of New England.

He noted that Mr. Smail's request had nothing to do what's before them and she did not get into anything regarding the existing trail. That was never one of her comments or suggestions. He noted that they went back and forth about the details for the crossings. He added that he spoke with Mark Possidento that inspired more questions.

He explained that Paula Kullberg was concerned with the shading of the boardwalks and its indirect impact on the wetland vegetation which would constitute their involvement. Also, the big thing was they would require federal designating of the wetlands which state, that they follow which is a federal type for the beds for foliage. He added that would have been an additional \$25,000.00 to \$35,000.00 just to do those initial studies and information required. And that was mainly due to the alternate trail to keep it away from the property lines. In further discussion with the Town Engineer they complied with the data even including the 10 feet on either side and where the crossings ended up beginning with the original route ending with being about 3,800 sq. ft. which does not fall within the Army Corp's jurisdiction in adding the additional dollars and work to be done on the project.

Chairman Garrigus noted that Paula Kullberg asked for a Cat One form which is basically acknowledgement that they are doing x, y and z. In this case they are conducting a Walking Trail with some of the details as far as 200 feet of boardwalk and low impact to the wetlands. He added that they will file a Cat One form.

Paula Kullberg also questioned what type of construction, will it be a short term impact to the wetlands and he explained to her that where they are crossing, they will build from the crossing itself as they work their way across and she

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was fine with that. They also included in the crossing coverage numbers, moving the trail back to the original position which puts them coming across the bottom of Mr. Smail's property and he was complaining about water. He stated that they will place a seep in that area and they will now have approximately 100 or 120 feet of boardwalk in that area, so basically where his property comes down that will be a boardwalk.

He explained to the commission that everything will go back to the Walking Trail committee, and the Town engineer. The existing trail with low impact, basically no impact as it's only the upland area except for about five crossings. He noted that he thinks that is the end of problems that the citizens brought to their attention.

Mr. O'Brien inquired if they were going to redraw the maps, at which time Chairman Garrigus noted that it's on the original map.

Mr. Tucker mentioned that before they vote he would like the record to show his interpretation and feelings about this trail.

Mr. Tucker stated that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse regulations for Wolcott states in Section One that is the responsibility of their commission to protect the quality of wetlands and watercourses for conservation for aesthetic reasons, recreation, public and private use and after a long study by the Scovill Reservoir Trail subcommittee with guidance and direction, and support from two members of the wetland commission. A detailed plan which showcases their natural resources is before them tonight, so they can either accept it for approval or deny it. He believes that the construction of this trail conforms to their regulations according to Section One. Because of that there are many benefits to the taxpayers of Wolcott; it's going to be a safe and inexpensive opportunity for physical activity. They mentioned that it could become an environmental class room and hope that educators in town and people will take advantage of this. He stated that he did research on the economic impact of the trail and it has been proven nationwide that the presence of a trail improves property values. He noted that he would like to commission to think about those things.

Mr. O'Brien said it will be a great for the town and an asset to the community.

Chairman Garrigus said he would like to entertain a motion on this application.

Upon **MOTION** by Richard Tucker, seconded by Ed Myers it was unanimously voted to **Approve** permit Application #14-004 for the extension of the walking

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trail at Scovill with the alternate trail route as our designated route bordering Bound Line and in front of Mr. Small's property with the following conditions:

- 1) During each phase prior to any clearing trail boundaries will be clearly marked by a continuous yellow tape. Inland Wetland & Watercourses commission will inspect and approve tree and material removal prior to construction.
- 2) Wherever the trail crosses through wetlands, over water courses or standing water, Soil & Erosion controls must be in place and maintained throughout the project. Staked hay bales will be the preferred method.
- 3) At all-times minimize soil disturbance at stream crossings. No grubbing or soil disturbance will occur anywhere unless the trail section can be completed within 30 days of soil disturbance.
- 4) Any construction in or immediately adjacent to wetlands will be done during dry periods.
- 5) Best management practices are expected to be followed at all times
- 6) Signage- must be placed at trailheads and along private property. The verbiage on signage should reference:
 - 1) Keeping people away from private landowners.
 - 2) Protect wetlands and uplands from foot traffic.
 - 3) Educate users about trail etiquette.
- 7) No fishing will be allowed from end of causeway on Woodtick Road at marker #67.00 to Munson Road marker #137.00. This is to protect breeding beds. (He said if they are heading north on Woodtick road at the end of the causeway from there all the way around the lake to Munson Road which he is what he referring to). That is to protect breeding grounds, wildlife habitat.
- 8) Planting plans should be provided for land between markers #91 to markers #99 for mitigation of vegetation removed during trail construction. The planting plan will serve 2 purposes:
 - 1) To provide food and nesting sites for wildlife and to retain surface runoff
 - 2) To provide a buffer for adjacent landowners.
 - 3) The planting plan must be submitted by September 1, 2014 and implemented by May 15, 2015.
- 9) That two boundary markers should be placed at intervals on existing trees along the trail. One marker should face town property and read

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something to the effect town property and the other one should face private property and it should state something to the effect of private property.

A roll call was taken and the **MOTION passed** as indicated below:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Richard Tucker-----	X-----		
Ed Myers-----	X-----		
Chris O'Brien-----	X-----		
Brian Lanese-----	X-----		
Mark Garrigus-----	X-----		

New Business

There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon **MOTION** by Ed Myers, seconded by Brian Lanese, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:30p.m.

APPROVED:

**Mark Garrigus– Chairman
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**

**Dolores Distiso
COMMISSION SECRETARY**