

**CHAPLIN**  
**INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Chaplin Town Hall, 7:00 P.M.**  
**July 27, 2016**

**Members Present:** Scott Matthies; Sharyn Rusch; Paul Deveny; Michael Jenkins; Peter Stick; Joe Theroux; Elizabeth Marsden, Recording Clerk

**Members Absent:** Peter Kegler

**Alternates Seated:** Virginia Walton for vacancy

**Also in attendance:** None

**Public Attendance:** None

**Regular Meeting**

Chairman Scott Matthies called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Additions to Agenda:** None

S. Matthies reported that at the May town meeting, the IWWC request to make this Commission 5 members instead of 7 was approved. Starting in November 2016, the quorum will be 3 instead of 4.

**Minutes reviewed** from April 27, 2016 regular meeting. **Motion** to accept minutes by S. Rusch, seconded by V. Walton, **motion** carried unanimously.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Correspondence:**

S. Matthies distributed the summer 2016 issue of *The Habitat* newsletter. He also discussed the notice received for the DEEP comprehensive training program. M. Jenkins said there is still possibly some training money in the budget. S. Matthies said the Commission's budget was cut so there may be no money. S. Matthies said the online course was valuable too but that DEEP charges \$75 for an online course, and there are also free online training videos.

S. Matthies said he has one voucher for the course and J. Theroux said if anyone wants to go he can probably get funds from the town. J. Theroux said he takes all the new courses and he will be glad to share info from the courses he has taken with the other Commission members.

S. Matthies received a DEEP Notice of Tentative Determination Statewide General Permit, Coastal Consistency Review. He said that general permits speak to certain activities that are above the town's jurisdiction, so this notice doesn't affect the Commission.

### **Administrative Report:**

#### 1. #80 Marcy Road, Maclure property

J. Theroux said a realtor who is trying to sell a property nearby has reported potential wetlands violations at the above property. House is built very close to a stream that has a pond dug out of it from long ago, and a junked car and scrap metal side business has been run out of the yard for years. The realtor also complained to Planning and Zoning. J. Theroux did a site visit. J. Theroux saw that none of the junked cars are leaking; Ms. Maclure's son did say that he was going to be moving the cars off the property. Ms. Maclure complained that town road drainage is a problem for her, it drains onto her property. J. Theroux requested direction from the Commission about how to proceed; he doesn't consider the cars a wetlands violation. Planning and Zoning issued a warning to owners to get rid of cars and junk by November. J. Theroux has spoken to the first selectman about the situation concerning the town correcting the road drainage issue.

After discussion among the Commission members, it was agreed that J. Theroux will send a follow up letter to the Maclures supporting Planning and Zoning's directive for the cars to be removed by November, addressing the town road drainage issue and offering to work with the Maclures on these concerns.

2. J. Theroux said as a consulting forester he has completed a forest management plan for a Joshua's Trust property on Tower Hill Road, including a small timber harvest on approximately 17 acres of the 37 acre property. Per usual practice, for any logging on a property with wetlands, the Notification of Timber Harvest form must be submitted to the Wetlands Commission to determine whether the logging request is a regulated activity or Permitted Use as of Right per Section 4 of regulations, in which case they don't need permits. J. Theroux distributed copies of the form with an aerial photo and plan, and explained further which activities are Permitted Use as of Right and which would require a permit. J. Theroux described at length the activities planned and mentioned that erosion control, grading and seeding will occur.

**Motion** to deem it a Permitted Use as of Right according to Section 4 of wetlands regulations by Mike Jenkins, seconded by Sharyn Rusch, **motion** carried unanimously.

### **Commission Discussion:**

1. J. Theroux informed the Commission of two complaints the town received about the new dam on Darling Pond, town property. One person's complaint resulted in the discovery that the contractor performed work improperly by working on the dam during a time of year when peak flows are likely. No repercussions to the town are known. The second complaint about the dam was from a person who is very upset after finding several live turtles stuck in the riprap-filled overflow channel of the dam, and one dead turtle. The area is designated as a box and wood turtle habitat. The citizen wants the overflow channel filled. J. Theroux met with this person 3 times and also spoke to the first selectman and discussed with the engineers several possible minor mitigation techniques but it appears no action will be taken to change the overflow channel. The citizen may report the issue to other agencies.

2. S. Rusch asked for the status of N Bear Hill bridge project and S. Matthies said it just went out for bid. J. Theroux said permitting process takes a long time. S. Matthies said land title issues were also involved.

### **Adjournment:**

*Motion* to adjourn by S. Matthies 7:25 p.m., P. Deveny seconded, *motion* carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Marsden, Recording Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 24, 2016 and these minutes are subject to approval at that time.