



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD

Inland Wetlands Board

APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES

December 09, 2021

Members present: Patricia Sesto, chair; Susan Baker, vice chair; Tim Bishop, Chris Phelps (Joined at 7:20PM), Tracey Miller, Alan Pilch, secretary; David Smith

Also present: Andrew P. Hally, wetland agent; Aarti Paranjape, office administrator; Michael Mazzucco P.E., John Scavelli, Steven Trinkaus, Dainius Virbickas, P.E., Anthony & Lorraine Catalano, Lynne Petrucelli.

I: Call to order

Ms. Sesto called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

II: Election of Officers:

Mr. Bishop motioned to nominate Ms. Sesto as Chair. Mr. Pilch seconded. Ms. Sesto abstained. Motion carried 5-0-1 with Ms. Sesto abstaining.

Ms. Sesto motioned to nominate Ms. Baker as Vice Chair. Ms. Miller seconded it. Motion carried 6-0-0.

Ms. Sesto motioned to nominate Mr. Pilch as Secretary. Ms. Baker seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

The agenda was reordered to consider the 2022 calendar.

III: Adoption of Calendar- 2022

Ms. Baker motioned to adopt the IWB meeting and site walk calendar for 2022. Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

Ms. Miller motioned to adopt the Aquifer Protection Agency meeting calendar for 2022. Mr. Pilch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

III: Public Hearing:



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None

Mr. Phelps joined the meeting.

IV: Applications for Discussion:

1. (Contd.)IW-21-49, 19 Belvedere Court, Summary Ruling application for addition of pool patio, and drainage system within the upland review area of the wetlands. Owner: Sean Adrian. Applicant: Michael Mazzucco.

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/83872>

Mr. Mazzucco gave an update regarding the relocation of the stormwater management system and the location of trees to be removed, along with the buffer planting. The stormwater system was moved closer to the house where the roof runoff is collected.

There are six trees to be removed, some of which are already dead. Buffer plantings consisting of sever shrubs are proposed along the north west edge of property.

Discussion ensued regarding what enhancements to the buffer plantings are warranted and acknowledged the tree line beyond the pool.

It was resolved the buffer shall be enhanced from the limit of lawn towards north of infiltrator and moving along west of property line and south of splash pad. This area should be converted to planting stations, spaced 15 feet on center and consisting of 3-5 shrubs or a trees. Ground cover of *Carex* and/or ferns also needs to be included.

Ms. Miller motioned to approve the Summary Ruling application with the standard, a condition to submit a planting plan per testimony and subject to approval by this board or its staff, and other relevant special conditions. Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Publication date is December 16, 2021 and effective date is December 17, 2021.

2. (Contd.) IW-21-52, 104 Haviland Road, Summary Ruling application for corrective action for potential violation, to expand landscape area, install deer fence and evergreens within the upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner/Applicant: Kenneth Rosenfield.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/83682>



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Applicant was not present. Ms. Sesto reviewed the time constraints and the necessity of the board to act before the close of the meeting. The board moved to the next application to allow more time for the applicant to join.

3. (Contd.)IW-21-55, 36 Old Mill Road, Summary Ruling application for addition of pool and patio within the upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner: Phillip & Leah Pilla. Applicant: John Scavelli.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/84253>

Mr. Scavelli gave an overview of planting plan as asked by the Board members in the previous meeting. The landscaping plan include trees, shrubs and ground cover.

Board members expressed satisfaction with the submission.

Mr. Smith motioned to approve the Summary Ruling application with standard and special conditions. Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried unanimously 7-0-0.

Publication date is December 16, 2021 and effective date is December 17, 2021.

4. IW-21-56, 187 Rippowam Road, Summary Ruling application to construct a bridge over a stream within the upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner: Nguyen, Vi. Applicant: Steven Trinkaus.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/84238>

Ms. Sesto stated her observation that following a site inspection and the reviewing the application, the proposed activity may have a significant impact on the watercourse and wetlands citing construction of the bridge is consequential and requires scrutiny. The application should be raised to plenary session.

Ms. Sesto motioned to raise the application to the Plenary Ruling. Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The public hearing is scheduled at January 13, 2022. The Applicant will submit the biological study and other required documentation.

5. IW-21-57, 0 Ives Court, Summary Ruling Application for Drainage, grading and road improvements to Ives Court to meet Town roadway standards within the upland review area of wetlands. *Owner: Robert Cioffoletti. Applicant: Michele Micoli; Artel Engineering.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/84217>

Ms. Sesto stated her observation that following a site inspection and the reviewing the application, the proposed activity may have a significant impact on the wetlands and



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watercourse due to stormwater discharges to the wetlands and watercourse. The application should be raised to plenary session.

Mr. Bishop agreed that the discharge into the wetlands is already happening due to erosion and significant impact may be associated with the proposal.

Ms. Sesto motioned to raise the application to a plenary ruling. Ms. Miller seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

The public hearing is scheduled at January 13, 2022. The Applicant will submit the biological study and other appropriate documentation.

V: Applications for Receipt:

1. IW-21-58, 66 Keeler Drive, Summary Ruling application for corrective action for potential violation, to fill the area adjacent to stream and pond within the upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner: Alexandre Suter. Applicant: Mike Mazzucco. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/84841>

2. IW-21-59, 63 Canterbury Lane, Summary Ruling application for constructing a barn, pool and patio, deck, septic system replacement and grading of lawn within the upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner: Andrew & Anni Berkeley. Applicant: Steve Sullivan. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/84830>

3. IW-21-60, 276 Old Sib Road, Summary Ruling application for reconstructing the existing garage with the addition above, within the upland review area. *Owner: Bobby Grenier. Applicant: Doug MacMillan. For receipt and scheduling a sitewalk and discussion.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/84416>

Mr. Pilch motioned to receive the above three applications, Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Sitewalk scheduled is for January 09, 2021 and discussion on January 13, 2021.

VI: Administrative Approvals:

1. IW-21-61, 69 Bobby's Court, Administrative application for replacement of deck



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within the upland review area. *Owner: Charles Stuhr. Applicant: John Dwyer*
<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/85142>

Ms. Sesto motioned to approve Iw-21-61. Ms. Baker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Publication date is December 16, 2021 and effective date is December 17, 2021.

VII: Status of Corrective Action Application-Completion of work

1. 21 Bryon Avenue

The homeowner was sent the new violation and Mr. Mason has sent an email in response to the violation, stating that the language used in the two violations is not consistent and that the violations should be rescinded.

Board agreed, that with the help of Mr. Beecher, the issue will be addressed.

2. 148 Ledges Road.

Mr. Hally updated that the homeowner wanted to make changes to the planting plan and wanted to be in front of Board to discuss.

Ms. Sesto asked Mr. Pilch and Ms. Miller to visit the property with Mr. Hally to assist the homeowner in meeting the intent of the permit.

Ms. Sesto stated that going forward the Board should be issuing orders rather than permits to correct violations. Orders require work to be done while permits give permission. She will work with Mr. Hally to revise the procedure.

VIII. Ongoing Enforcement by Agent:

- **33 Beaver Brook Road** - Cease and Correct Order – *Michael & Christine Caramadre*

Ms. Sesto informed the Board that she recently returned the statement attesting to the verified pleading to Mr. Beecher. The filing for an injunction should follow.

- **799 North Salem Road**, Peter Moritz
Mr. Hally informed that application was submitted by SWCD. He visited the site



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and discussed what needs to be done.

- **34 Rustic Road;** Felicia Clem.

Mr. Hally stated Mr. Jewell is waiting for direction from town counsel regarding his client's ability to construct a dock on a Town pond.

Ms. Sesto suggested to get the update about when can the application can be submitted.

- **56 Shadow Lake Road;** David & Christine Dicamillo

Mr. Hally said that the homeowner has contacted the office and is cooperative.

The violation is for the excavation and earth disturbance on a steep slope between the wetlands and the lawn. The homeowner was grading the lawn. He added the wetlands are not high quality adjacent to the work area. The homeowner has completed the wetland delineation and is expected to submit the application.

- **40 Mountain Road;** Robert Deroma

The Homeowner was not present.

Mr. Hally stated the homeowner removed some debris from the wetland. Additionally, he has some cinder block and terraced patio which he has to address by submitting an application to correct the violation.

Ms. Petrucelli inquired about the other violations on the property. She stated the homeowner has worked around the stream bed for ATV path and the homeowner has performed activities within the wetlands without permits.

Mr. Hally stated he visited the site due to the zoning violation and he didn't have permission to enter the property.

Ms. Sesto suggested to Ms. Petrucelli to submit written information in order for office to pursue with the violation.

- **200 St. Johns Rd;** Anthony & Lorraine Catalano

Mr. Catalano assured the board they are fully supportive of remediating the violation. He described the work to cut down one dead tree in the wetlands but didn't remove the stump; work was stopped when violation notice was received.



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The violation states the area was cleared, but it was only mowed as it is every year. Discussion ensued regarding the extent of the work and existing conditions. Ms. Sesto relayed her observations of the site conditions based on Google maps. The wetland is shown as being dominated by herbaceous growth that was mowed. The street view comports with the Catalano's description.

Ms. Sesto stated that cutting of a tree falls under Section 4 under management of property and it's not categorized as violation. She added that the tree stump can be trimmed to the base as of right.

Board agreed to rescind the violations based on the information provided by the homeowner and existing conditions as seen via aerial photos.

Mr. Hally will issue a letter reflecting the decision of the Board.

Ms. Baker inquired why 34 Rustic Road is still considered a violation if the applicant is waiting for town counsel and the Conservation Commission to handle the matter.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Hally will update the Board after checking the homeowner has remedied the violation by removing the trellis, fire pit and if the lawn has been repaired as per Board's requirements.

The applicant will apply for the permit if they propose a dock on the watercourse.

IX: Other Business:

1. Minor regulated Activity notification at a property in Town of Wilton.
2. Removal of trees, vines and install generator 80ft from wetlands at a property in Town of Wilton

Board acknowledged the letters and agreed that the activities proposed are not a threat to wetlands in the Town of Ridgefield.

X: Approval of Minutes:

- **Inland Wetlands Meeting:** October 28, 2021

Ms. Baker motioned to approve the minutes for the meeting. Mr. Bishop seconded. Mr. Smith and Mr. Phelps abstained. Motion carried 5-0-2.



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- **Sitewalk Minutes:** December 05, 2021

Ms. Baker motioned to approve the minutes for the sitewalk. Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Applications Ready for Review

2. (Contd.) IW-21-52, 104 Haviland Road, Summary Ruling application for corrective action for potential violation, to expand landscape area, install deer fence and evergreens within the upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner/Applicant: Kenneth Rosenfield.*
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In the absence of the applicant, the Board requested Mr. Hally review the status of the application.

Mr. Hally stated he visited the property and helped the homeowner locate the four birches to be planted. They are equally distributed within the wetland.

The homeowner has not yet submitted the location of trees on survey, however they are ready to finish the violation portion and come back again with new application for other proposed work.

Ms. Sesto motioned to approve the corrective action to plant 4 river birch trees, with the bond posted for 2 years, and eliminate all other aspects of the applications. Ms. Miller seconded. Mr. Phelps and Mr. Smith abstained. Motion carried 5-0-2.

XI. Adjourn

Hearing no further business, Ms. Sesto adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Aarti Paranjape
Recording Secretary