

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
February 6, 2013
7:30 P.M.
Auditorium, Town Hall

Acting Chairman Riccardo called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M

Commission Members Present: Vickie Riccardo, Wynne Shapiro, Ed Sweeney, Rick Rohr, Alan Armstrong, and Keith Kearney

Staff: Jacobson

Court Reporter: Syat

Ms. Riccardo called the first agenda item:

EPC-01-2013, Town of Darien, Department of Public Works, Stony Brook Road, approximately 500 feet North of the intersection of West Avenue and Stony Brook Road, proposing drainage improvements in a regulated area.

Darren Oustafine, Assistant Town Engineer, represented the applicant. He described the problem of standing water on Stony Brook Road, which causes a safety issue in the winter and a nuisance in the summer. He explained the proposed solution to the problem which involves a curtain drain along the edge of the road. He said he added catch basin inlet structures at the pipe ends to make it easier to maintain the pipe.

Mr. Sweeney asked where the water from the pipe will discharge. Mr. Oustafine said it flows in a pipe across the road, and then via a drainage way to the Stony Brook.

Mr. Rohr asked the depth of the pipe below grade. Mr. Oustafine said one foot. Mr. Rohr asked about the depth of the catch basins. Mr. Oustafine said as minimal as possible. He said the basins are mainly to protect the ends of the pipe.

Mr. Rohr made a motion to approve the application. Ms. Shapiro seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Ms. Riccardo called the next agenda item:

EPE-02-2013, Neil Foster & Janet Eick, 35 Plymouth Road, proposing raising existing house, house addition, deck, and patio, within an upland review area.

Attorney Wilder Gleason represented the applicant. He introduced John Martucci, P.E., Nick Sadjja, Architect, and property owners Neil Foster, and Janet Eick. He provided a high-lighted copy of the site plan showing the proposed activities. He said they are proposing to raise the first floor of the house from elevation 9.8 to elevation 16. He said the proposed addition is for a

stairway to access the new first floor. He said they will be required to fill a portion of the foundation and there will be filling associated with the new patio.

Ms. Riccardo asked about the upland review area to be disturbed. Mr. Martucci said 4,637 square feet including 2000 square feet under the house.

Ms. Shapiro asked about the amount of fill to be brought to the site. Mr. Martucci said approximately 200 cubic yards, or ten truck loads, including fill inside the new foundation.

Mr. Gleason said the applicant is willing to provide a 6 or 7 foot planted bed along the edge of the pond.

Mr. Sajda said they need to fill around the foundation to up to the crawl space to comply with the flood regulations.

Mr. Rohr asked if they could extend the retaining wall and reduce the need for fill and lawn area. Mr. Gleason said they would prefer not to change the proposed grading. He said there would be no impact to the pond. Mr. Rohr said there is would be an increase in fertilizer and pesticides.

Mr. Rohr asked about the driveway pavers indicated on the site plan. Mr. Sadjja said they are existing.

Mr. Gleason said they would prefer the grading as proposed, and suggested a condition that only organic lawn care products be used.

Ms. Riccardo said, in summary, the applicant has offered a 7 foot planting buffer, a planting plan to be approved by staff, and the use of organic lawn care.

Mr. Sweeney made a motion to approve the application with the above conditions. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion and it passed 5-1. Mr. Rohr was opposed.

EPC-03-2013, Lance Zimmerman, A.I.A., on behalf of Mark Bothwell, 19 Waterbury Lane, proposing new house construction within an upland review area.

Mr. Rohr was recused for this application.

Lance Zimmerman, Architect, represented the applicant.

Ms. Riccardo asked the members if they feel a public hearing is warranted. The consensus of the members was that a hearing would be in the public interest.

Mr. Kearney made a motion to schedule the public hearing for March 6. Mr. Armstrong seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Ms. Riccardo said the site was unsightly with debris, although not within the regulated area. Mr. Zimmerman said the site would be landscaped after the house is built. He said the stone wall was constructed to define the construction area and usable area, and protect the wetland.

Mr. Jacobson said the engineering report is under review by Mr. Oustafine. His preliminary comments include the need for test holes in the detention area.

The following public hearing was postponed to March 6.

EPC-38-2012, Redniss & Mead, Inc., on behalf of Steven Payne, 5 Dogwood Lane, requesting permit to retain existing drainage structures within an upland review area.

Minutes of January 9

Mr. Sweeney made a motion to approve the minutes of January 9, as amended. Ms. Shapiro seconded the motion and it passed 4-0. Mr. Rohr and Mr. Armstrong abstained.

Ms. Riccardo called the next agenda item:

Election of Officers

Ms. Riccardo thanked Mike Tone and Pete Kenyon for their years of service to the Town. She opened the floor for nominations.

Mr. Rohr nominated Ms. Riccardo for Chairman. Mr. Kearney seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Mr. Sweeney nominated Mr. Rohr for Vice-Chairman. Ms. Shapiro seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Ms. Rohr a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sweeney seconded the motion, and it passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Jacobson
Environmental Protection Officer