

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WINDSOR INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY JULY 7, 2020 7:00PM**

Meeting Location: Online webinar, to join via computer please go to the link below
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82156275301>

To join via telephone please dial: +1 646 558 8656 then when prompted 821 5627 5301#

Commissioner Jefferis called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

I. Roll Call (Commissioner Jefferis reminded everyone to silence their cell phones.)

Present: Commissioners Ruth Jefferis, Richard Williams, Kevin Washington, and Adam Schibley, Steven Fraysier, Dominic DeCarlo. Vice Chair Paul St. Amand joined the meeting at 7:15, a quorum was established. Also present, Wetlands Agent Emily Perko

Absent: Chairman Morando and Secretary Towers

Also present was Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Agent Emily Perko.

II. Public Communications (3-minute limit on items other than Public Hearings)

Public communications opened at 7:08 PM.

There were no comments from the public.

Public communications closed at 7:09 PM.

III. Business Meeting

A. Minutes

Commissioner Schibley made a **motion to approve the minutes as corrected for the June 3, 2020 meeting.** Commissioner Washington seconded the motion.

Vote 5-0-1.

B. New Business

Application 20-115_500 Huckleberry Road –Town of Windsor– Four soil borings for geotechnical investigation.

Phil Forzley, PE from Fuss and O’Neil representing the Town of Windsor for this application explained the history of the project. Stating the town has been working with Fuss and O’Neil on this project for ten years to develop a solution for a wetlands seep that contains iron precipitate which is very unsightly. After many meetings with the town and DEEP a solution to pipe the seep underground and have it outlet at the bottom of the Farmington River was reached.. The need for borings is to understand the subsurface geology for the horizontal drilling that will take place in the future. The land based borings will aid in determining depth to bedrock and the borings in the Farmington River will give the team a better understanding of the soils in the river and how deep to make the pipe.

Northwest Park trails will be utilized to get near the drilling area then minimal understory clearing will take place to get to the drilling site.

Vice Chairman Paul St. Amand joined the meeting

Commissioner Schibley asked the risks behind the Farmington River borings.

P. Forzley stated the company being hired to do the work is very familiar with this work and completes projects which include boring in a watercourse often.

Commissioner Schibley asked if the iron precipitate will cause any ecological problems or if this issue is purely aesthetic

P. Forzley stated this is strictly aesthetic and this area has been studied for over ten years. Many alternatives were examined such as artificial wetlands and a treatment plant to remove the iron. However, those options would have required a lot more impact to the wetlands and watercourse. The current option being presented was recommended by the Department of Environmental Energy and Protection.

Commissioner Schibley stated that even if purely aesthetic, if done properly, this will be an improvement to the wetland.

Commissioner Williams asked the time frame on the applications.

P. Forzley stated the schedule for completion is next October 2021. The borings will start once the application is approved then design will begin.

Commissioner Schibley made a motion to accept application 20-115_500 Huckleberry Road –Town of Windsor– Four soil borings for geotechnical investigation and place it on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioner Washington seconded the motion.

Vote: 7-0-0

Commissioner Schibley made a motion to add application 20-116_777, 1001, 903 Day Hill Road – Day Hill Dome, INC – Athletic fields and stormwater basin in upland review area to the agenda. Commissioner Washington seconded the motion.

Vote 7-0-0

Phil Doyle presented the application and began with giving an overview of the projects surrounding the proposed application. The timeline for the project is to open before the fall of next year with having all the permits approved by this fall. The first phase of the plan is to build a 100,000 square foot indoor facility in a partially air inflated, partially steel structure along with one outdoor soccer field. Additional land is in the process of being acquired which would be part of a phase 2, two additional soccer fields and a baseball field. This is a long term project that will take 2-3 years to complete. There are two existing stormwater basins that will be receiving the flow from the north of the property. There is grading work and construction of two storm water basins being proposed in the upland near the eastern

wetland. One issue that was carefully evaluated was erosion control both short and long term.

Wetlands Agent Emily Perko stated she went on a site walk of the project area with Skip Alford whom designed the drainage and George Logan whom is the wetlands scientist for the project. The biggest area of concern is what is being referred to as the eastern wetland which is located adjacent to the proposed baseball and soccer field.

Skip Alford discussed the drainage both existing and proposed on the properties. There is no direct impact being proposed to the wetlands.

Commissioner Fraysier asked where the Day Hill Road catch basin drains after road improvements are completed.

S. Alford explained that basin has its own drainage system and will remain within the Day Hill Road drainage.

Commissioner Schibley asked about the 50% decrease in flow with the drainage being proposed.

S. Alford stated this is during storm events. Most of the water will actually go into the ground through infiltration. This is due to how the fields are going to be designed, to promote infiltration.

Commissioner Jefferis exited the meeting.

Commissioner Schibley asked if the detention basins being proposed are for over flow during major storm events.

S. Alford confirmed this stating these are for major storm events and there still will be some runoff due to the pervious areas proposed.

George Logan, soil scientist and wetlands scientist, stated this is a forested wetland in a ravine, it is very flat with only a foot or two difference in grade. The wetland is predominantly fed by groundwater. As long as the ground water is replenished there is no concern with a negative impact.

Commissioner Fraysier asked about the Tiger Beetle and Dart Moth that were identified with NDDB.

G. Logan stated those species were also encountered with the Fast Pitch Nation Project. They worked with the Army Corps of Engineers and DEEP to identify both species. Areas on that parcel were designated for protected habitat. The sand associated species are not at this current site due to the sand being excavated and there being other areas for them to inhabit. Once the time comes for the project to expand into the forested land proper protocols will be followed. A summary will be provided to the commission on each of the species with an action plan.

S. Alford explained the topography in the southern property line slopes down and is bare sand. This area was left unvegetated for habitat purposes.

Commissioner Fraysier asked if there is a master plan for the entire area.

S. Alford stated there are additional plans for the properties but nothing is concrete and the economy will dictate what is reasonable and feasible for the area.

Commissioner Fraysier asked if there are vernal pools anywhere near this project.

G. Logan stated he was not aware of any within at least 500 feet of the property.

Commissioner Schibley made a motion to accept the application 20-116_777, 1001, 903 Day Hill Road – Day Hill Dome, INC – Athletic fields and stormwater basin in upland review area and the application be placed on the agenda for consideration at a special meeting on August 4, 2020. Commissioner Washington seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0

Commissioner Schibley made a motion to reschedule application 20-115_500 Huckleberry Road –Town of Windsor– Four soil borings for geotechnical investigation to the August 4, 2020 special meeting. Commissioner Washington seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0

IV. Public Hearing

V. Miscellaneous

None

VI. Authorized Agent Actions

There were no Agent Actions

VII. Agent Report

None

VIII. Petitions from Commissioners

There were no Petitions from Commissioners

IX. Adjournment

Commissioner Schibley made the motion to adjourn at 8:47 PM.

Commissioner Washington seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0

I certify that these minutes were approved on

Marlene Towers, Secretary
Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission