

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
INLAND/WETLANDS AGENCY
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT
July 18, 2018 Minutes**

A regular meeting of the East Granby Inland Wetland/Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, July 18, 2018. Members present when Chairman George Cornelius called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. were John Rusnock, Daniel Methot, Frank Kilby, John Febroriello, Michael Malloy, Russell Houghton and with alternate Jennifer Frank. Trisha Rondeau arrived at 7:03 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

The legal notice was read.

Trish Rondeau arrived at 7:03 p.m.

- A. Skyline Solar – Significant activity/ground mounted solar
140 North Main Street (CC#18-03)
(rec'd 6/06/18) (h/d 7/18/18) (d/d 8/01/18)

Fabian Wika, representing the applicant and the solar company, explained that the homeowner was unable to attend tonight's meeting as he had a family emergency.

Mr. Wika discussed the details of the application. Due to the architecture and orientation of the house, a roof mounted system would not do well. The ground mounted was an alternative and is minimally invasive. He distributed documentation on the design of the installation. There is no concrete. The supports are self-drilling and installed at a depth of 3 ½ feet. The location was to meet zoning and to appease the customer who wanted to preserve a yard area behind the home.

Mr. Haynes noted that the area was mainly turf and/or meadow grass. He reviewed his report comments noting that the disturbance was minimal and that as a condition of approval, the area must be staked out and inspected by the wetland enforcement officer to ensure the area is dry prior to installation.

Mr. Cornelius was concerned that the wetlands had not been flagged. Mr. Haynes reiterated that the wetlands were based on the Town map which, though not always accurate, should be sufficient as the disturbance by 6 posts was minimal. Flagging the wetlands was not necessary.

There was discussion on the size of the panels, the angle and that any vegetation underneath would be blocked from water and sunlight. Other options were discussed such as a dual system but dismissed for many reasons. There was concern for cleaning the panels, but Mr. Wika stated that the owners are advised not to clean them. It's best to leave that to Mother Nature. Cleaning is not required nor advised.

Mr. Cornelius stated that the Commission is here to protect the wetlands. He noted the homeowner appeared “cavalier” and won’t budge on moving the panels out of the wetland area. It was more than 6 posts as there would be the 2 foot deep trench too.

Gary stated that the Commission had two options: 1. Make a decision tonight based on the information before you or 2. Ask the applicant to continue the hearing to allow time to survey and map out the wetlands. This would be an additional cost of \$1,000 or more.

Members discussed their options and Mr. Wika agreed to continue the hearing and would discuss the situation with the homeowner. The hearing is continued to the 8/01/18 meeting. The public hearing portion of the meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by John Rusnock and seconded by John Febbriello to approve the minutes of 6/06/18 with the following correction: Page 1, Under “New Business”; second paragraph; last sentence – change “He stated that here wee basin maintenance note already on the plan” to “He stated that there were basin maintenance notes already on the plan. The votes in favor (5) were unanimous. Motion carried. (Daniel Methot, Michael Malloy, Russell Houghton & Jennifer Frank did not vote as they were not at the meeting)

COMMUNICATIONS

The Commission also received:

July Meeting

- PZC Minutes for 6/12/18
- Habitat
- Staff report for Application #CC18-03
- Application CC18-04 for an upland review for an in-ground pool at 31 North Main Street

OLD BUSINESS

A. Wetlands Enforcement Report – No report. No current issues.

B. Director of Community Development Report

a.) **Administrative Approvals** – None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Skyline Solar – Significant activity/ground mounted solar
140 North Main Street (CC#18-03)
(rec’d 6/06/18) (h/d 7/18/18) (d/d 8/01/18)

The public hearing for this application was continued to the next meeting on 8/01/18.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Michael Malloy and seconded by Daniel Methot to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie McKenney
Land Use Administrative Assistant