

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY  
EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT  
June 1, 2022 Minutes**

A meeting of the East Granby Inland Wetlands Agency/Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022. Members present when Chairman George Cornelius called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM were Michael Malloy, Trish Rondeau, John Rusnock and Alternate David Tobin.

**PRESENTATION TO THE COMMISSION**

A. Land Trust Seymour School/Granbrook Park Trail Project  
(Tom Grimaldi, Town Engineer & Amanda Thompson, Land Trust)

Tom Grimaldi, Town Engineer, presented plans to the Commission for a trail through the East Granby Land Trust's Tom and Ginnie Howard Educational Preserve property behind Seymour School. The trail will run from the edge of the school soccer fields and along the preserve to provide student and public access to Salmon Brook and Granbrook Park from the school.

The area is fairly flat with a steep slope. It was determined that most of the cut for the trail would occur in the flatter areas—areas that could be accessed and limit the amount of disturbance in the floodplain. A water quality swale is included in the design so that runoff on the field will not go onto the path, causing erosion and other maintenance issues. The swale (1' deep, 8' wide) will direct the water into the woods away from the trail and promote groundwater recharge and infiltration. The plan is to replant clearcut areas once the trail is completed.

Mr. Grimaldi's engineer's cost estimate for the project is \$117,000 to \$120,000. Amanda Thompson of the Land Trust is applying for grants to fund the project. The planned trail ends at a bridge across a watercourse (swampy area) and the trail will be continued by the Land Trust from that point forward.

Mr. Grimaldi also showed the Commission how the planned cuts around the bridge area and fill outside of the floodplain will increase floodplain storage by 110 cubic yards. Sediment logs backed with wood chips from the clearing operation and water bars that discharge onto small crushed stone pads are also incorporated into the design of the trail, as well as TRUEGRID. Made from recycled plastics, TRUEGRID will be staked in place on the trail and filled with ¾" crushed stone, making the trail more stable and permeable than one of aggregate.

Mr. Grimaldi stated that no grades on the trail exceed 5% in an attempt to make it accessible; however, it cannot be considered truly ADA accessible because the crushed stone that will be used will make wheelchair access difficult. An off-road wheelchair could be used on the trail if needed.

Mr. Grimaldi estimates the trail could be constructed over a period of about six to eight weeks. Steep areas will require erosion control blankets while under construction. The Town of East Granby is giving Mr. Grimaldi permission to work with the contractor and complete inspection work for the part of the trail that is on Town property.

George Cornelius recommends that a presentation be made to DEEP regarding the trail. Land Trust member Cathy Delasco mentioned that the Land Trust has already been meeting with representative from DEEP and the Connecticut Farmland Trust and have additional meetings scheduled.

## **MINUTES**

A motion was made by David Tobin and seconded by Trish Rondeau to approve the minutes of May 4, 2022 as submitted. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Commission received:

- Planning & Zoning minutes for 5/10/2022
- Copy of letter dated 5/16/2022 from Mark Goderre regarding vehicles parked in flood plain at 119 Hartford Avenue
- E-mail dated 5/17/2022 regarding confirmation of the Eversource site walk
- Copy of IWC Administrative Approval dated 5/18/22 for 103 & 113-115 Hartford Avenue for retention pond maintenance
- E-mail & letter from owner Kevin Moriarty dated 5/19/2022 to the Commission regarding a request for a continuance to July for Application #CC22-02 for 10 Connecticut South Drive
- Inland Wetlands Agent Report dated 5/23/2022
- E-mail from Mark Goderre dated 5/26/2022 regarding confirmation of wetlands compliance at 119 Hartford Avenue
- “Trail to Howard Preserve” map/photo packet from the East Granby Land Trust

George Cornelius asked for details about the Eversource site walk that took place last Friday, May 27, 2022. Michael Malloy reported that he, Jennifer Frank, and Lisa Griffin attended. They walked to the top of the hill off of Hatchet Hill Road with the Eversource representatives, who had two maps of the area. Mr. Malloy commented that it still seems that Eversource did not protect the wetland areas as they were supposed to. The representatives attempted to point out vegetation that was retained, but to those present it seemed as if all was clear-cut and that the area had only been re-marked after the cutting was done. Mr. Malloy suggested to the Commission that they have a discussion with Eversource regarding the specifics of their practices to avoid this happening in other areas that have yet to be cut, because again, it seems as if they were more sensitive during construction for pole installation than during their maintenance plan phase. Mr. Malloy also suggested that a meeting with someone from the Siting Council might also be a good idea for the Commission.

George Cornelius said that he will bring this issue to the attention of Robin Newton, East Granby's new contracted Town Manager.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Reports & Other Business**

- a) Wetlands Enforcement Report 5/23/2022: The report outlined violations occurring at 103 Hartford Avenue and 119 Hartford Avenue.
- b) Administrative Approvals – 103 Hartford Avenue/Detention Maintenance: This work was begun before an application was submitted and approved.
- c) Application Acceptance for Activity Significance: None.
- d) Other Business: None.

### **B. Harp Realty (CC#22-02) 10 Connecticut South Drive**

Significant activity in upland review for an office/warehouse  
(rec'd 3/02/22) (h/d 4/06/22 cont'd to 5/04/22 & 7/06/22) (d/d 8/03/22)

A continuance to July was requested by the applicant for this application.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by John Rusnock and seconded by George Cornelius to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM. Votes in favor were unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Hall  
Land Use Administrative Assistant