

**Hamilton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of July 27, 2011
Meeting held at Hamilton Town Hall**

Commissioners present:

Virginia Cookson (7:42), Robert Cronin, Peter Dana (7:38), Keith Glidden, Richard Luongo (co-chair), George Tarr

Staff present:

Jim Hankin, Conservation Coordinator

Others present for all or a portion of the meeting:

Michael DeRosa, consultant
Chuck Johnson, consultant
Linda Meiggs of Lisco Development

The Commission is scheduled to hold just one regular meeting in August, at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 17. The August site walk is scheduled for Saturday morning Aug. 13.

Richard Luongo opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Conservation Coordinator Jim Hankin said a discussion of drainage and water management issues that had been slated for this meeting would instead take place during the August meeting, because information gathering was incomplete.

Keith Glidden made a motion for the Commission to accept the minutes of the meeting of June 22, 2011 as presented. Robert Cronin seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Glidden made a motion for the Commission to accept the minutes of the meeting of July 13, 2011 as presented. Mr. Cronin seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Notice of Intent

10 Villa Road

Karen Ciliv, applicant; DeRosa Environmental, representative

Install seasonal dock on Chebacco Lake

Robert Cronin made a motion for the Commission to open a public hearing on Karen Ciliv's Notice of Intent for construction of a dock in Chebacco Lake, off her property at 10 Villa Rd. George Tarr seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Ms. Ciliv's wetland consultant Mike DeRosa and the applicant's contractor provided details of the project. Mr. DeRosa showed an aerial photo of the site; he also pointed out wetlands and buffer zones on a map showing a recent delineation. The applicant wants to place the dock near a neighbor's, in a sandy area. It would consist of three 5' X 12' sections anchored by aluminum posts, with a small ramp at the lake bank. At its far end it would sit in water 4' deep. Deck sections and the posts would be removed each fall and stored over the winter beyond the owner's driveway. The structure would allow light to reach the pond, to lessen impact on vegetation below. The posts and deck sections would be installed by hand.

Peter Dana joined the meeting during this discussion.

Mr. DeRosa said the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has not yet issued a file number for this proposed project, nor commented on it.

Robert Cronin commented that many Chebacco Lake landowners have installed docks without filing for a permit. Commissioners reached a consensus that a site inspection is unnecessary.

Peter Dana made a motion for the Commission to continue the public hearing pending DEP's issuance of a file number. Keith Glidden seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Dana asked whether the harbormaster monitors whether property owners remove docks from the lake. Mr. Hankin said he does not know whether this takes place.

Virginia Cookson joined the meeting as this discussion concluded.

Request for Determination

53 Postgate Road

Laurie A. Sahagian, applicant; C.G. Johnson, representative

Install Title V compliant septic system

Chuck Johnson, the landowner's septic engineer, displayed a street plan and a lot-specific site plan and described the septic system proposed for 53 Postgate Rd. The house on the 100' X 230' lot is close to the road, and the existing septic system consists of a tank to one side of the house, and two leaching pits that run roughly parallel to the back of the house, close to the structure. An in-ground pool is located farther back from the house. Wetlands and an intermittent stream lie at the back of the property, and beyond the property line. The owner proposes to improve the septic system by keeping the existing tank, which was installed in 2001, but installing a pump chamber and a pressure distribution system in an area slightly farther back on the property than the existing leaching pits. The backyard is fairly level, dropping from 90' where the distribution system is to be placed to 83' at the edge of wetlands. An existing stockade fence stands at the back edge of the lawn, and beyond the fence, the ground slopes more steeply to wetlands. Existing electrical and propane lines to an existing pool shed, which is near the property line on the opposite side of the lot from the septic tank, cross the area that would be disturbed; Mr. Johnson said those lines would be relocated. A section of the existing leaching trenches would be removed, as necessary for construction of the new pressure distribution system; the rest would remain in place.

Conservation Coordinator Jim Hankin confirmed that the lawn is quite level, and said there is little chance that during construction any erosion would take place into wetlands. He recommended the Commission grant a negative determination conditional on the Hamilton Health Agent's approval of the septic design.

Mr. Hankin said that while inspecting the property he noticed that grass clippings were recently deposited at the wetland line; he took a photo of the small area, approximately 4' x 4' x 1 1/2", which he showed commissioners. After brief discussion, commissioners agreed to require the landowner to remove the clippings, and to notify the landowner not to place materials there in the future.

Keith Glidden made a motion for the Commission to grant a negative determination, with the conditions that the Hamilton Health Agent approve the septic plan, and that the landowner remove the pile of organic material from the wetlands and adjacent no disturb zone. VOTE:

Unanimous. Mr. Hankin said his letter conveying the signed RFD would instruct the landowner not to place grass clippings near or in wetlands going forward.

Certificate of Compliance

Hamilton Shopping Center, Walnut Street

DEP file #172-0447, recorded book 22381 page 556; Order of Conditions issued 2/3/2004

Construct several structures in newly expanded Crosby's Market

Conservation Coordinator Jim Hankin said the owner of the Hamilton Shopping Center (Shoppes at Hamilton Crossing) discovered in the process of applying for a loan that the firm had not yet resolved a 2004 Order of Conditions by filing for a Certificate of Compliance (COC). The firm now requests a COC. The shopping center lies across the Wenham / Hamilton town line, near wetlands, and when Crosby's Market expanded in 2005 all work for its septic system took place in Wenham; within Hamilton, a concrete fence and rip rap were installed, and several small structures were constructed immediately behind Crosby's. Mr. Hankin said he recently walked the site and found that all structures comport with the original plan and the as-builts that were filed after construction took place in 2005; he also found that wetlands behind a fence and retaining wall appeared unchanged from their 2004 state. He passed around photos he took during that recent site inspection. He recommended the Commission issue a COC.

Keith Glidden made a motion for the Commission to issue a Certificate of Compliance. Virginia Cookson seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Mr. Hankin said a notice would appear in local newspapers during the week of this meeting giving notice of an Aug. 17 public hearing on proposed changes to Commission fees. He noted also that no one has yet expressed interest in filling the vacancy on the Commission; a notice about the vacancy runs regularly in local papers, and the Hamilton Board of Selectmen announces the vacancy at each of its meetings.

Robert Cronin made a motion for the Commission to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. Keith Glidden seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Minutes submitted July 28, 2011 by Ann Sierks Smith