

**LITCHFIELD INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 11, 2023 ~ 7:00 p.m.**  
**In Person at Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Robert Blazek called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Members Present:** Martin Connor, William Dooley, Jack Healy, Mike LoRusso, Jack Hamill, and Robert Blazek. Also present were Spencer Musselman, Wetlands Agent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary.

**Members Absent:** Susan Clarkin

**Appointment of Alternates:** None

**APPLICATION RECEPTIONS**

**1. Bonaldi – 103 North Shore Road**

**10/11/23**

*Extension of existing deck by 4' x 12' (56 sq. ft.)*

Dean Girardin presented for Lori Bonaldi. He submitted the permission letter from White Memorial and said they want to put a larger door in the front of the building, expand the deck by 4 ft. toward the road and change the staircase. Marty visited and thought the extra size would not make a difference. Commissioners were happy with the agent determination. **Motion:** M. Connor directed the Wetlands Agent to do an agent determination. J. Healy seconded. All voted aye and the motion passed.

**2. Forman School Inc. – 12 Norfolk Road**

**10/11/23**

*Conversion of an existing grass playing field to synthetic turf surfacing. The field will be surrounded by new 4 ft. high chain link fencing. There will be a 20 ft. ball netting behind each goal area. Concrete sidewalks will run along the western and northern limits of the field (0.96 acres affected).*

Jim Strub, Attorney at Secor, Cassidy & McPartland, Forman CFO Peter Maltby and Kevin Fuselier, Landscape Architect with SLR were on hand and Kevin presented. He sited the uppermost of the three fields and pointed out the wetlands and the river. There will be a partial construction area within the regulated areas. They are proposing removal of the existing grass and soil on the field and converting it to synthetic turf. The topsoil will be disposed of offsite. A drainage system will be constructed with a stone basin below the field sized to provide water quality for the first 1" of runoff for the entire project site. Additionally, an overflow pipe from the proposed field drains to a level spreader and will prevent a point discharge of any water that doesn't naturally infiltrate while being stored in the stone layer. There will be a concrete anchor curb that will attach to the turf. Concrete walks will lie along the north and west ends. There will be an elevated pad for two bleacher sections and provision for shelters from the elements. They will restore the disturbed areas around the perimeter of the field. Brockfill is an engineered infill, replacing crumb rubber infill, that will be laid between the crushed stone and the artificial turf. It is made from the loblolly pine that is chipped, baked and treated, all very safe. They will restore the disturbed area with a conservation seed mix.

**AGENT DETERMINATIONS**

**3. Harrison – 148 Maple Street**

**10/11/23**

*Demo existing house, construct a new four (4) bedroom house on the same footprint and construct a new two (2) car garage with storage space above*

S. Musselman let the commissioners know that he gave an agent determination on this application. He explained that this is 97' from the wetlands, and only a small corner of the house is in the review area. The garage and septic is outside the wetlands area.

**4. Inland Wetlands Agent Report:** S. Musselman said the Dutch Epicure is moving to the red, two-story colonial that was Dr. Benzoni's office. In 2011, that property was approved for a rain garden, and it was installed. It is currently infested with Japanese knotweed. P&Z recommended taking the matter to Wetlands. S. Musselman recommends continued maintenance on the garden and asked for the commissioners' guidance. J. Hamill suggested mowing and cutting it, and S. Musselman said cutting it three times will help kill it. Then it can be restored to its original condition. J. Healy added that freezing temperatures will also kill it. **Motion:** J. Healy moved to maintain it by cutting. M. LoRusso seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**5. Approval of Minutes – September 13, 2023: Motion:** Since there was not a majority of those present who attended the August meeting, Chairman Blazek said approval will be moved to the next agenda.

**6. Correspondence:** R. Blazek said speaking with Attorney Janie McDermott regarding letters of support for the Land Trust and Land Conservancy, she stated we are not in the business of being an advisory body. We are a regulatory body of the State and a decision-making body who must be objective and work by the Statutes. Therefore, it is not within our power to support real estate transactions.

-Pullman & Comley notification letter re solar facility at 105 Vista Drive in Torrington, from Lee D. Hoffman

**7. Adjournment: Motion:** J. Hamill moved and J. Healy seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:58 p.m. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary