

Town of North Canaan
Inland Wetlands Commission
May 26, 2022
Regular Meeting

Present: Chairman Matt Freund, Barry Brown, Mike O'Connor, Eric Whiting, Chris Crane

Chairman Freund called to order at 7:03pm

Mr. O'Connor moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Mr. Whiting seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

100 and 104 Lower Road – Christian Allyn in his professional capacity will be doing a full invasive plant removal on the property of chocolate vine, bittersweet and Japanese knotweed. The target application is slated for July. Mr. Allyn showed the map of the area that he will be working on. There is a 150 feet of river frontage. He is using spray treating. Mostly a carpet of chocolate vine with some bittersweet. He will treat this year and follow up next year, then come back every year to make sure it is adequate or if it needs further treatment. The treatment will be mostly triclopyr but also glyphosate injection for the knotweed. Some of the treatment is within a setback of a water body. The commission thanked him for the information. There was a discussion regarding the Housatonic Valley River Commission and its status as advisory and the planning and zoning commission. For future projects Mr. Allyn could come before the commission to let them know, but it could be something that Chairman Freund and Mr. O'Connor could sign off on without the commission having to be involved. Mr. O'Connor will check with the state regarding invasive species eradication process and get their take on it.

Tom Hammond of 21 Lower Rd spoke with the commission regarding what he can do about putting in a retaining wall behind his home. Chairman Freund stated he will probably have to go to the Army Corps of Engineers but it is going to be difficult. We are in a cease and desist order on parts of the Blackberry River. This area is not a wetlands area, but it is in the flood plain corridor. Mr. O'Connor suggested that Mr. Hammond begin with the DEEP. Chairman Freund suggested to try on a Tuesday morning and explain that you are losing your back yard and it is endangering your home and it is a safety issue. Chairman Freund can send a letter if the need arises. There was a discussion of the 1955 flood and the river being put back where it was.

No correspondence

Sign offs: Mr. O'Connor signed off on a pool on Trescott Hill, A pole barn on Old Turnpike South, a pole barn on Margaret Lane, and on Ashley Falls Rd. They were all outside the wetlands areas.

Chairman Freund and Mr. O'Connor investigated a property on Ashley Falls Rd. John Considines property abuts a drainage ditch next to tech air and they could see guard rails and piles of stuff and Tech Air were worried about filling in the wetlands. However the water drains from the road and are vernal pools made from the railroad. The depressions fill with water, but it is not a wetlands soil. It is a state of CT drainage area. No action taken and they expressed to ZEO Martin to look at it.

Chairman Freund signed off on a handicap ramp to the existing property of the church on Granite Ave.

Mr. Whiting made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Crane seconded the motion. Motion was passed

Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ayrslea A Odell

Recording Secretary
