

**INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY**  
**TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 19, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Woodbridge Inland Wetlands Agency for May 19, 2021 was commenced via WebEx at 7:31 pm on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 by Chairman Robert Blythe.

Agency members participating in the WebEx Meeting were: Chairman Robert Blythe, Jack Kurek, Dave Speranzini, and Barry Josephs. Agency member Josh Goldberg as well as alternates Jean Webber and Josh Lemon did not participate in the meeting. Agency Enforcement Officer (AEO) Kristine Sullivan participated in the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Peter Forchetti dba Primo Capital LLC: 15 Meadowcrest Circle**  
**Request for Transfer of Permit for Residential Site Development of Property.**

The request from Peter Forchetti dba Primo Capital LLC for the transfer of the permit for the residential site development of property located at 15 Meadowcrest Circle n/f owned by Geraldene Giering was formally received. The request was accompanied by a letter of consent to the permit transfer by permittee, Geraldene Giering.

After a brief discussion, Agency members took the following action regarding the request:

**\*\*\* Speranzini moved to transfer the permit for the residential site development of 15 Meadowcrest Circle to Peter Forchetti dba Primo Capital LLC based on the letter of consent to the permit transfer received from the permit holder, Geraldene Giering. The transfer of the permit is subject to all of the conditions of the original permit remaining in effect, with the exception of the change of the name of the permittee.**

**\*\*\* Kurek seconded**

**\*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, and Josephs**

**\*\*\* Opposed: No One**

**\*\*\* Recused: No One**

**\*\*\* Abstained: No One**

**Approved 4-0 vote**

**Andrew Wisniewski: 1225 Johnson Road**  
**Application for construction of a garage addition**

The application for the construction of a garage addition for the existing residence at 1225 Johnson Road submitted by Andrew Wisniewski was formally received. The application was accompanied by a site plan showing the location of the garage addition, checks for the State and Town application fees and proof of notice to the abutting property owners.

Mr. Wisniewski participated in the WebEx discussion of the application. In discussion he noted the following regarding the application and in response to questions by Agency members:

- He was looking to build an addition to his garage.

- The garage would be in the footprint of the current driveway, so in an existing disturbed area.
- That area of the site is flat and currently has asphalt on it, which would be removed.
- The addition is intended to match the existing architecture of the home.
- He did not have an exact measurement from the new structure to the onsite pond.
- Runoff from the garage can be designed to whatever the Agency would like.
- Currently drainage footing drains are piped into the pond.
- The pond does not have a direct inflow and outflow.
- The pond has debris in it which at some point he would like to remove.
- Some years the pond almost dries out.

In discussion, Agency members noted the following:

- Runoff from the garage should be treated before it gets into the pond.
- Handling runoff is complicated because of the proximity of the garage to the pond.
- A drainage solution, designed by the project engineer should address the roof drainage, including drainage calculations, and ensuring that the roof drainage does not go directly into the onsite pond, but is treated before it enters the pond.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was the consensus of the Agency members to continue discussion on the application until the Agency’s regular meeting on June 16, 2021 to allow time for additional information to be provided regarding handling of the garage roof drainage.

**Sean and Toni Driscoll: 481 Amity Road**  
**Application for Placement of a 10’ x 18’ Prefab Shed**

The Agency members formally received the application submitted by Sean and Toni Driscoll for the placement of a 10’ x 18’ prefab shed on their residential property located at 481 Amity Road. The application was accompanied by a check for the State and Town application fees, site plan showing the location of the proposed shed and proof of notice to the abutting property owners.

Mrs. Driscoll participated in the WebEx meeting to discuss the application. In discussion of the application, and in response to questions by Agency members she noted the following:

- When the wetlands are “full” the shed would be within 40 to 50 feet of the flooded wetlands.
- The area where the shed would be placed is currently a mix of grass, some weeds, and a woodpile.
- No major clearing would need to be done to place the shed.
- The shed would be prefab and would not have a cement base.

At the conclusion of discussion, Agency members acted to delegate action on the application to AEO Sullivan as follows:

\*\*\* **Kurek moved to defer action on the application to the Agency’s Duly Authorized Agent since the activity would not be directly in a wetlands and should have minimal or no impact to the onsite wetlands because of the minimal site work needed to place the shed.**  
 \*\*\* **Josephs seconded**

- \*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, and Josephs
- \*\*\* Opposed: No One
- \*\*\* Recused: No One
- \*\*\* Abstained: No One

Approved 4-0 vote

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Daniel and Lauren Esposito: 15 Wolf Tree Drive**

**Cease and Desist Order Regarding Tree Clearing and Grading in Wetlands and Upland Review Area**

**Daniel Esposito: 21 Wolf Tree Drive**

**Cease and Desist Order Regarding Tree Clearing and Grading in Wetlands and Upland Review Area**

**Daniel Esposito: 15 and 21 Wolf Tree Drive**

**Application for Restoration of Areas Cleared and Grading in Both the Wetlands and Upland Review Area**

The application has been formally received at the Agency’s regular meeting on February 17, 2021. Since the April 21, 2021 meeting of the Agency, an email had been received from Attorney Pellegrino on behalf of Mr. Esposito, requesting additional time to process the application to allow time for survey work to be completed to determine if any of the restoration work would need to be done on adjoining property owned by the Woodbridge Land Trust.

Discussion regarding the forgoing agenda items was therefore deferred until the Agency’s regular meeting on June 16, 2021.

**Patrick and Sumiko Tray : 22 Rimmon Road**

**Application for remediation work adjacent to wetlands in response to Cease and Desist Order.**

The application had been formally received at the Agency’s regular meeting on March 21, 2021. Since the Agency’s last meeting, AEO Sullivan had inspected the site with homeowners Patrick and Alison Tray. Sullivan noted:

- The homeowners intend to remove invasive Japanese Barberry and Multi-Flora Rose growing adjacent to the stream.
- Larger dead trees would be removed by hand.
- Smaller branches would be chipped in place.
- The existing lawn area would not be expanded towards the stream.

Mrs. Tray had submitted a site plan locating where plantings would occur after the invasive plants and dead trees had been removed. A local nursery will be consulted to select plantings that can have “wet feet”.

At the conclusion of discussion, the following action on the application was taken by the Agency members:

**\*\*\* Kurek moved to approve the application submitted by Patrick and Sumiko Tray as amended by the site plan showing the location of plantings to be made after invasive species adjoining the stream and wetlands are removed. The approval is made subject to the Agency Enforcement Agent being authorized to approve and modify the referenced planting plan.**

The permit is approved because with the removal of the invasive species and the proposed replanting of suitable wetland tolerant plants, the quality of the stream corridor should be enhanced.

\*\*\* Speranzini seconded

\*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, and Josephs

\*\*\* Opposed: No One

\*\*\* Recused: No One

\*\*\* Abstained: No One

Approved 4-0 vote

### **Charles Riether: 170 Center Road**

#### **Cease and Restore Order Regarding Clearing at 170 and 174 Center Road Around a Seasonal Stream**

AEO Sullivan reported that she had been out to the site earlier in the day. She reported that:

- Plantings have been made around the cleared area on Mr. Riether's property where the septic work had been done
- The location of where 10 (ten) red maple trees will be planted was staked in the area adjoining the seasonal stream on Mr. Estra's property at 174 Center Road.
- Native plants are already sprouting in the area that was disturbed that adjoins the seasonal stream
- It did not appear practical to have additional bush plantings done adjacent to the seasonal stream since undergrowth was regenerating on its own and once the trees grew, bushes would be shaded.

Mr. Estra participated and in the WebEx meeting and did not have any objections to the proposed restoration plantings.

At the conclusion of discussion, Agency members acted as follows on the Cease and Restore Order:

\*\*\* **Kurek moved to amend the Cease and Restore Order issued to Charles Riether regarding clearing at 170 and 174 Center Road around a seasonal stream, by approving the planting of ten red maple trees in the area of 174 Center Road adjacent to the seasonal stream that had been inadvertently cleared.**

**To ensure the success of the plantings, a \$1000 (one thousand dollar) cash bond shall be posted by Mr. Riether and held by the Agency for the period of two years to ensure that the ten red maple trees survive for a minimum of two years, and if they die within that time frame are replaced in kind.**

\*\*\* Josephs seconded

\*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Speranzini, and Josephs

\*\*\* Opposed: No One

\*\*\* Recused: No One

\*\*\* Abstained: No One

Approved 4-0 vote

### **Correspondence**

1. An email had been received from Chandra Prasad relative to the replacement of the Stadium Field at the Amity Regional High School, 25 Newton Road.

Chairman Blythe recused himself from this item.

AEO Sullivan reported that the email had been forwarded to Town Counsel who had advised that the Agency could take no action since the Agency had previously determined that no action was required regarding the stadium field since it was outside of the upland review area regulated by the Agency.

### **SITE VISITS**

No site visits needed to be scheduled.

### **ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS REPORT**

The AEO reported the following to the Agency:

- A call had been received earlier in the day from Anamaka Reed of 95 Forest Glen Drive relative to her concerns about impacts to the wetlands on 91 Forest Glen Drive by blasting occurring for the foundation of the new residence to be constructed at 91 Forest Glen Drive.
- After the phone call with Mrs. Reed the AEO had googled “impacts to wetlands from blasting” since she was unaware of any adverse impacts’ vis a vis years of seminars and training.
- She had sent an email to Agency members to alert them of Mrs. Reed’s concerns and added a link to a Q and A blasting article which included comments on blasting and impact to water tables and wells.
- Subsequently Mrs. Reed did send an email which was forwarded to the IWA members.
- After continuing to “google” an article from the CT DEEP regarding concerns to wetlands from “significant” blasting, quarries, roads, etc. was found and again forwarded to the Agency members.
- Also on Wednesday afternoon, she had conducted a visit to 91 Forest Glen Drive. She noted that she had previously been to the site to inspect erosion controls the week before.
- The general contractor and blasting contractor and his crew were both on the site at the time of the visit.
- She was told that blasting had started closest to the wetlands (65’ away) and then proceeded back from that point away from the wetlands.
- Except for the stone dust from the drilling for the charge holes and the soil disturbance from the treads of the equipment being used to drill, the site was topographically the same as when her prior site visit had occurred for the erosion control inspection the week prior.
- The erosion controls were in place.
- She noted a less than 2’ square fragment of stone appeared to have gone immediately over the erosion waddle at the point of the closest blast location ~ but other than that no evidence of any “spray” of rock, etc. towards the wetlands was observed.

Chairman Blythe noted that he had also “googled” the issue independently and did not find any information varying from what the AEO had reported.

At the conclusion of the discussion by the Agency members it was the consensus of the Agency members to have the AEO contact Town Counsel to have him respond to Mrs. Reed since it was the understanding of the Agency members that blasting itself is under the jurisdiction of the Fire Marshal.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There was no action regarding the March 17, 2021 or April 21, 2021 minutes.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\*\* Josephs moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.**

**\*\*\* Kurek seconded**

**\*\*\* In favor: Blythe, Kurek, Josephs, and Goldberg**

**\*\*\* Opposed: No One**

**\*\*\* Recused: No One**

**\*\*\* Abstained: No One**

**Approved 4-0 vote**

**Accordingly, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Kristine Sullivan, Acting Recording Secretary**