

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency  
Special Meeting, June 25, 2014  
Page 1 of 2

1. Call to Order

The Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Sally Sanders, Eric Davison, Kim Senay and Christine Darnell. Anna Sweeney, Wetlands Compliance Officer, was also present. Vice Chairman Sanders called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

2. Show Cause Hearing, 42 Ferry Road - Notice of Violation, Disturbance in the Wetlands

Vice Chairman Sanders noted this was a Show Cause Hearing for a Cease & Desist Order for unpermitted activity in a watercourse.

Mr. DePatie and Mr. Germini were both present. Mr. DePatie noted he had been away on a trip in the Spring and was horrified to see what had happened to his back yard after torrential rain. He reviewed photos showing flood deposited material and the foundation of his deck stairs. It was noted the house is extremely close to the stream and with today's regulations would never have been allowed to be built there. The house was built in 1964. DePatie explained after seeing this damage he knew he needed to maintain his yard and was going to install rocks and build up the dirt behind the rocks. He also was going to plant vegetation but wasn't sure what to use. DePatie further noted there has never been any exposed rocks until now. He just thought he was maintaining his yard and protecting the foundation of his house.

Vice Chairman Sanders noted protecting the home is allowed, but the Agency has to approve a way that is safe for the property owner and the environment. Mr. Germini noted there is a bottleneck just past the garage that is slowing things down. Mr. DePatie noted there was an elevation certificate prior to his purchasing the house, otherwise the flood insurance cost would have been prohibitive. The lowest point of the house is 10'8" which is 8" above the base flood elevation of 10'.

It was noted the area has now been stabilized with hay. Mr. Germini reviewed the work he had done in the stream.

Ms. Sweeney noted for the record Mr. DePatie had obtained a copy of a map from 1993 when the Wetlands Agency issued a permit for a garage which was partly in the wetlands.

NOTE: These Minutes are subject to Agency approval at next regular meeting.

Chester Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency  
Special Meeting, June 25, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

Vice Chairman Sanders noted the Agency will need an application noting proposed work as well as work that has already been done.

Eric Davison noted he visited the site with Ms. Sweeney. He indicated between wetlands flags 22 to 23 the bank on the house side has been fortified with stone. He agreed something must be done as the ouse is really low and could be threatened by serious storms. He also noted work in the stream requires other permits as well from DEEP. There should be some kind of an hydraulic analysis done.

The Agency suggested Mr. DePatie hire an engineer as this is a complex thing and should be designed by an engineer. There are currently no erosion controls to capture sediment downstream. It was noted this work should be done in August when the water is low.

Vice Chairman Sanders reiterated the need to hire an engineer as this could potentially be dangerous to the house. The application process was explained. There was further discussion regarding proposed activity and the need for an engineer to contact DEEP for any required State permits (stream channel encroachment, etc.).

3. 42 Ferry Road - Notice of Violation, Disturbance in the Wetlands  
Mr. DePatie noted he would attend the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was agreed the property owner could bring the rutted area back to natural grade in the meantime, but not raise the elevation. 3" process stone could be used for stabilizing the rutted area. An application would be submitted for the July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Members reviewed a video of the site showing property conditions.

Mr. DePatie also noted he was thinking of doing a footbridge to his property on the other side of the stream. It was suggested this could be included in the application as the permit is good for several years.

#### 4. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary