



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

APPROVED/REVISED MINUTES

June 10, 2021

Members present: Patricia Sesto: Chair, Susan Baker: Vice Chair, Tim Bishop, Tracey Miller, Alan Pilch, David Tatge

Members absent: Kory Salomone: Secretary

Also present: Andrew P. Hally: Inland Wetlands Agent, Aarti Paranjape: Office Administrator; Brandon Arcamone, Jay Smith, Mr & Mrs Daigle,

I: Call to order

Ms. Sesto called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

II: Applications for Discussion:

- 1. IW-21-20 (Contd.), 384 Branchville Road, Summary Ruling Application** corrective action for an installation of a stone pad for prebuild garage and filling within the upland review area. *Owner/Applicant: Brandon Arcamone.*

The members received the updated planting plan. Mr. Arcamone gave an overview stating he proposes 36 plants and gave an estimate for the bond.

Ms. Baker inquired if there is clear demarcation of lawn near the north end behind the shed and distance from the wetlands.

Mr. Arcamone said there are existing rocks which roughly mark the limit of lawn. He added that there is 10-15 feet between the flags and the rocks lining the lawn.

Ms. Sesto suggested placing two-man boulders to clearly demarcate the lawn limit. The planted buffer should be 15 feet from the edge of the wetlands and be comprised of native species of creeping ferns, sedges, and rushes as opposed to the hostas and Boston ferns depicted. Ms. Sesto said that the budget proposed by Mr. Arcamone will be enough to buy the natural vegetation.



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

Discussion ensued, and members agreed following conditions:

- Planted buffers shall extend northward from the top of the north bank of the ditch. Paralleling flags 3-5 the buffer shall be no less than 15 feet deep. Paralleling flags 7-8 the buffer shall be no less than 10 feet deep. The buffers shall consist of native creeping ferns, sedges, and/or rushes. The final planting plan shall be submitted for approval.
- Smaller planting material of plugs and quart-sized material is acceptable.
- A bond in the amount of \$350.00 shall be posted.
- Two-man (2-3 feet diameter) boulders, spaced fifteen feet on-center shall be placed adjacent to the outside edge of the buffer to mark the limit of lawn. A tick barrier of mulch may be placed in between the boulders.
- Implementation of the planting plan and boulder demarcation shall be completed by July 10, 2021

Mr. Arcamone was advised to choose plants that are not wetland dependent as the plantings are occurring outside of the wetland. Ms. Miller suggested the plants be categorized as facultative upland.

Mr. Tatge motioned to approve the Summary ruling application with applicable regular special conditions, the additional special conditions as articulated, and standard conditions. Ms. Baker seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0. Publication date is June 17, 2021 with effective date of June 18, 2021.

2. **IW-21-24, 239 Peaceable Street**, Summary Ruling Application for renovations and sitework within upland review area of the wetlands. *Owner: Patrick and Katherine Daigle. Applicant: Jay Smith.*

Mr. Smith addressed the concerns expressed by the Board at the last meeting. He stated the revised plan was submitted with the silt fence moved more uphill, away from the wetlands-demarcation line towards the property.

The details of the grading alongside the steps is at its steepest a slope of 3 to 1. The slopes will be planted and stabilized.

Mr. Pilch acknowledged the revised plan is better. He also stated the 100-foot upland review area boundary is from the edge of wetland and not the edge of a pond and not 75 feet as shown.



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

Mr. Tatge motioned to approve the Summary ruling application with standard and applicable normal special conditions. Mr. Bishop seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0. Publication date is June 17, 2021 with effective date of June 18, 2021.

III: Applications for Submission:

Mr. Pilch motioned to receive the below listed Summary ruling application, with site walk performed individually and discussion on June 24, 2021. Ms. Miller seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0.

1. IW-21-27, 21 Bryon Avenue, Summary Ruling Application and after-the-fact Permit Need determination for a corrective action for a violation within upland review area of wetlands. *Owner: Jennifer Kubick. Applicant: Matthew Mason. To receive and schedule a sitewalk and discussion.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/82194>

IV: Administrative Approvals:

1. IW-21-26, 37 Benson Road; Deck replacement. *Owner: Bradley & Sarah Blosat. Applicant: Reginaldo Farias.*

<https://ridgefieldct.viewpointcloud.com/records/82137>

Mr. Hally gave the overview of the application to replace and expand the deck. New footings are required. He stated the applicant proposes hand digging the deck posts. The work is approximately 70 feet away from the edge of wetlands and the earth disturbance is minimal.

Mr. Pilch inquired about the elevation and impervious surface and what kind of material is proposed to cover the ground under the deck.

Mr. Hally noted some information regarding the application has been conveyed orally. Ms. Sesto stated the paper file/electronic file needs to reflect the conversation to complete record.

Ms. Baker motioned to approve IW-21-26. Mr. Tatge seconded. Motion carried 6-0-0

V. Ongoing Enforcement by Agent:



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

1. Cease and Correct Order – 33 Beaver Brook Road - Show Cause Hearing

Mr. Caramadre informed the office Jim McManus, soil scientist, is very busy, he would not be able to submit an application the June 8 deadline. No alternate submission date was provided.

The Board agreed that Mr. Hally will contact Mr. Caramadre to firm up a date for submission. If Mr. McManus is not able to respond in a reasonable time, Mr. Hally will provide a list of soil scientists for Mr. Caramadre to contact. The Board also agreed to determine the final date of submission at the next meeting.

2. 21 Bryon Avenue

Summary ruling application is submitted and received by Board.

3. 136 Limekiln Road

Ms. Culbert contacted the office and confirmed the application would be submitted before the next scheduled meeting.

VI: Other Business:

1. Signs- “Watch for turtles”

Mr. Bishop informed members that he noticed turtle activity along Farmingville Road where it intersects the Great Swamp. He expressed concerns of the turtles being run over by cars. He suggested placing warning signs of turtle activity along the intersections of Ligi Way and Farmingville Road along the Great Swamp.

He said it will also be good to check with the highway and police regarding the safety of placing these signs.

Members agreed and encouraged placing signs strategically around the town where turtle activity is prominent. Further, this project, while worthy, isn't necessarily appropriate for this board to pursue, especially given the board's very limited budget. Mr. Bishop was encouraged to send a memo to the Conservation Commission.

Members also suggested informing the town by sending articles to Ridgefield Press.

Mr. Hally stated he contacted the highway and police departments and they don't have issues with the signs. DPW committed to only providing hardware for the signs and not the actual signs.



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD Inland Wetlands Board

2. Ms. Sesto announced Mr. Salomone and Mr. Tatge will not be pursuing reelection, creating two openings for the November election. She suggested members should approach residents who would be interested to serve on the Board.

3. Ms. Sesto received notice that the Natural Resource Conversation Service is seeking permits to remove Dam # 2 on the Ridgefield Brook.

Mr. Bishop will look into and gather the information from the past meetings held in 2018. Members decided to continue discussion at the next meeting on June 24, 2021.

VII: Approval of Minutes:

Inland Wetlands Meeting – May 27, 2021

**Ms. Baker motioned and Ms. Miller seconded to approve the minutes as amended.
Motion carried 6-0-0.**

VIII. Adjourn

Hearing no further discussion, Ms. Sesto adjourned the meeting at 8:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Aarti Paranjape
Recording Secretary