

**BRISTOL CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF MONDAY MAY 2, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER:

By: Chairman Fisk

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: Board of Education
Auditorium, 129 Church Street**ROLL CALL:**

MEMBERS	NAME:	PRESENT	ABSENT
REGULAR MEMBERS	Zachary Fisk (Chairman)	X	
	Chet Reed (Vice Chairman)		X
	David Rooks (Secretary)	X	
	Michael Robinson	X	
	James Carros	X	
	David Scarritt		X
	Daniel Massaro, Jr.	X	
ALTERNATE MEMBERS	Carolyn Checovetes	X	
	Richard Ministro	X	
	James Ritchie		X
STAFF	Carol Noble, P.E., Environmental Engineer	X	
	Nancy Levesque, P.E., City Engineer		X
	Andrew Armstrong, Assistant City Planner	X	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**INTRODUCTIONS AND SEATING OF ALTERNATES:**

Members and Staff were introduced. Alternates Checovetes and Ministro were introduced and seated.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chairman Fisk invited Evan, a local Boy Scout, to address the Commission. Evan asked Commissioners for advice with finding a project that would help him attain his next level in Scouts. Recommended projects included the accessible pathway at Indian Rock Nature Center and help needed at Kern Park.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

1. Conservation Commission Overview Materials Discussion

The Commission received the following items in their electronic packets: an overview report dated May 2, 2022, of the Bristol Conservation Commission Overview; a copy of the Bristol 2015 Plan of Conservation and Development (portions), Planning Commission, City of Bristol, Revised April 1, 2018; Naugatuck Valley Council of Government (NVCOG) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and Low Impact Development (LID) Local Regulations Assessment City of Bristol (undated), a copy of the Plainville, Low Impact Development and Stormwater Management Design Manual, Prepared by Planimetrics and Trinkaus Engineering, LLC, amended to April 23, 2015.

Carol Noble, P.E., Environmental Engineer for the City of Bristol, gave a brief overview of the packet that was provided to the Commission. The intent of the packet was to refresh Commissioners on the goals and mission of the Conservation Commission and to gauge the various interest levels of certain topics. The Bristol 2015 Plan of Conservation and Development provides several strategies including the open space priorities that were encouraged by the citizens of Bristol. Also included were references from NEMO which is a guide for towns in Connecticut to protect water quality, and materials on land use regulations and low impact development to

maintain sustainable communities. NVCOG put together an analysis of MS4 and low impact developments in different communities. The Commission was encouraged to look at what other towns are doing and come up with recommendations for the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Commissioner Carros joined the meeting at 6:43 P.M.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Pigeon Hill Property. The property has been transferred and the two Bristol parcels that are now owned by the City will be managed by the Environmental Learning Center. There are several steps that need to be taken to make the trail accessible.

The Commission engaged in a brief discussion regarding ideas and projects for the Conservation Commission to tackle. Chairman Fisk recommended they look into preserving water resources by reducing the amount of fertilizers, pesticides, and salts being used in the community. Farmington River provides test strips to residents so that they can regularly test the water in sensitive areas for excess salt.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 6:58 P.M.

By: Chairman Fisk

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

**BRISTOL INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF MONDAY MAY 2, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER:

By: Chairman Fisk

Time: 7:02 P.M.

Place: Board of Education
Auditorium, 129 Church Street

Introductions and Seating of Alternate Commissioners

Members and Staff were introduced. Alternates Checovetes and Ministro were introduced and seated.

Public Participation (Non-Pending Applications)

None.

NEW APPLICATIONS:

2. Application 1979 – Wetlands application for a new attached garage at 27 Cherry Hill Drive; Assessor's Map 50, Lot 32; Tri-Sons Carpentry, applicant.

The Commission received the following items in their electronic packets: a description of the request, undated, from Ryan Wark and Monica Castonguay; an As Built Map dated November 4, 1983, with proposed garage plan; GIS wetland map, redlined with proposed garage location, an Assessor's Card with structure descriptions, undated; and four photographs entitled "*Application #1979 – Wetlands application for a new attached garage at 27 Cherry Hill Drive; Assessor's Map 50; Lot 32; Tri-sons Carpentry, applicant: Photo 1: March 22, 2022, "Nearmap" aerial; Photo 2: Looking west 04-27-22; Photo 3: Looking north 04-27-22; and Photo 4: Looking east 04-27-22.*"

Ryan Wark and Monica Castonguay, 27 Cherry Hill Drive, property owners

Frank Vanlinter of Tri-Sons Carpentry, 90 Belgian Circle, applicant

MOTION: Move to receive Application #Application #1979.

By: Commissioner Ministro

Seconded: Commissioner Robinson.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application is received.

Frank Van Linter, of Tri-Sons Carpentry, provided a brief overview of the project. The application is for a proposed two car garage at the southern side of the property. The amount of excavation for this project is minimal and there is no vegetation in the area that would be disrupted. They will be creating new drainage that would drain towards the left side and rear of the property. The builders do not feel that this project will create any significant impacts to the wetlands. The application also includes an infiltration type system for the new roof area. The applicant explained that due to rocky conditions, they will assess the area after excavation to determine the best fit infiltration system.

MOTION: Move to declare Application a non-significant activity.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application was declared a non-significant activity.

MOTION: Move to approve Application #1979 –Wetlands application for a new attached garage at 27 Cherry Hill Drive; Assessor’s Map 50, Lot 32; Tri-Sons Carpentry, applicant, in accordance with the plot plan and information submitted with standard stipulations and roof run-off shall be directed to an infiltration system

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Ministro.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application is approved.

3. Application 1980 – Wetlands application for modifications to Application 1918 to expand storm water basin an additional 382 c.f. at 88 & 96 East Main Street; Assessor's Map 41, Lots 36-1 & 37; Blasius of Bristol LLC, applicant.
4. Application 21-467F-261 – Floodplain modification to existing application for compensatory storage and removal of approximately 706 c.f. of soil and stockpile debris and new plantings at 88 & 96 East Main Street; Assessor's Map 41, Lots 36-1 & 37; Blasius of Bristol LLC, applicant.

The Commission received the following items in their electronic packets for application 1980: application; GIS location and wetland map; a Proposed Planting Plan, dated April 21, 2022, entitled "*Blasius of Bristol, Proposed Bio-Retention Basin Planting and Maintenance Spec, 96 East Main Street, LLC*"; a report dated March 23, 2022, entitled "*Infiltration Analysis Based on 25-yr Storm, Prepared for Project #0313-7, 96 East Main Street, Bristol, CT*"; a "*Proposed Bio-retention Basin Planting and Maintenance Spec, 96 East Main Street, LLC*", dated April 21, 2022; a memorandum dated March 28, 2022, from Carol Noble, P.E., Environmental Engineer, to Wayne Zirolli, P.E., WJZ Engineering and Debbie Hudak, Law Offices of Alfred Morrocco, Jr.; a Land Lease Agreement, dated December 2, 2021.

The Commission received the following items in their electronic packets for application 21-467F-261: application, GIS location and floodplain maps; a Proposed Planting Plan, dated April 21, 2022, entitled "*Blasius of Bristol, Proposed Bio-Retention Basin Planting and Maintenance Spec, 96 East Main Street, LLC*"; a report dated March 23, 2022, entitled "*Infiltration Analysis Based on 25-yr Storm, Prepared for Project #0313-7, 96 East Main Street, Bristol, CT*"; a "*Proposed Bio-retention Basin Planting and Maintenance Spec, 96 East Main Street, LLC*", dated April 21, 2022; a memorandum dated March 28, 2022, from Carol Noble, P.E., Environmental Engineer, to Wayne Zirolli, P.E., WJZ Engineering and Debbie Hudak, Law Offices of Alfred Morrocco, Jr.; a Land Lease Agreement, dated December 2, 2021.

Application #1980 is a modification of the previously approved application #1918. The modification would expand the storm water basin to the adjacent property owned by St. Joseph Polish Society. The Polish Society has agreed to allow the activity to remain on their property. The City is looking to acquire permanent easements as opposed to any short term agreements.

Chairman Fisk explained Applications #1980 and #21-467F-261 would be heard concurrently but voted on separately.

MOTION: Move to receive #1980.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application is received.

MOTION: Move to receive #21-467F-261.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application is received.

Attorney Alfred Morrocco addressed the Commission on behalf of Blasius of Bristol LLC. Attorney Morrocco explained that while his client was cleaning up the property they mistakenly went beyond the property line. There have been several meetings with Corporation Counsel and the Mayor, and the provision is to amend the various applications to allow what was built to remain. The Polish Society was cooperative with these efforts, which extended the parking lot. Blasius is looking to correct the error and satisfy any requirements of the Commission.

Wayne Zirolli, Professional Engineer and Land Surveyor, also addressed the Commission on behalf of Blasius and reviewed a revised 5-2-2022 calculations submittal. The original detention basin was at the edge of the property. The parking area was extended past the property line and they built a bioswale and fence behind that area. There is not much room to extend the bioswale. There is also a pile of soil and debris in the back corner that will be cleaned up without disturbing any of the wetlands. Mr. Zirolli provide the Commission with an updated storm water calculation summary. The current impervious area coverage of the site per the "As-Built" plan from Clark Engineering dated January 22, 2022 depicts additional pavements area of 4060 square feet. Two proposed planting areas were also paved adding 215 and 335 square feet for a total additional impervious area of 4610 square feet. The revised required storage for 1" of rainfall is now 2062 feet, which is an additional 382 cubic feet of storage from what was originally proposed. The proposed revised bioswale area depicted on the revised site plan dated April 21, 2022 depicts a storage area of 1356 cubic feet and a compensatory area of 706 cubic feet.

Commissioners expressed several concerns regarding vehicle maintenance being performed on the property. Attorney Morrocco informed the Commission that major maintenance issues are outsourced for service. Attorney Morrocco also informed the Commission that they will be asking St. Joseph to consider an easement with the City and that Blasius would be responsible for any bioswale maintenance (maintenance plan provided). Commissioners also expressed concern with snow removal.

MOTION: Move to declare Application #1980 a non-significant activity.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application was declared a non-significant activity.

MOTION: Move to approve Application 1980 – Wetlands application for modifications to Application 1918 to expand storm water basin an additional 382 c.f. at 88 & 96 East Main Street; Assessor's Map 41, Lots 36-1 & 37; Blasius of Bristol LLC, applicant, in accordance with the plot plan and information submitted with standard stipulations and subject to additional stipulations:

- a permanent easement for the storm water system,
- conservation easement with conservation markers for the compensatory volume area at a minimum,
- the specific planting plan to be submitted and coordinated with engineering for bioswale and conservation areas,
- the long-term maintenance plan for the bioswale and the conservation area to be spelled out in the storm water and conservation easement documents with the responsibility for permanent maintenance and compliance clearly addressed, and
- include conservation signs for protection of both the bioswale and conservation areas.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application is approved.

MOTION: Move to approve Application 21-467F-261 – Floodplain modification to existing application for compensatory storage and removal of approximately 706 c.f. of soil and stockpile debris and new plantings at 88 & 96 East Main Street; Assessor's Map 41, Lots 36-1 & 37; Blasius of Bristol LLC, applicant, in accordance with the plot plan and information submitted with standard stipulations.

By: Commissioner Rooks

Seconded: Commissioner Ministro.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The application is approved.

Old Business

5. Superior Electric Application #1876 - Project Status

The Commission received the following items in their electronic packets: a report (attached maps and photograph) from ERM, Environmental Resources Management, dated February 10, 2022.

Carol Noble informed the Commission that the consultants have submitted several "As Builts" and there has been coordination between the consultants and City staff. There have also been some questions and concerns brought forward by citizens and the consultants were asked to address those concerns.

Sarah Seekins, Mack Bonner, and Evan Erlich, of ERM, addressed the Commission and provided updates on the Superior Electric project status. The consultants stated that ERM must conduct wetlands monitoring twice per year for ten years. They evaluated the wetlands based on mitigation performance goals using methodology with quantitative analysis. During the first growing season after construction they were pleased to see that most of the wetlands had regenerated as expected. ERM also planted three thousand native trees and shrubs during the restoration phase. Survivability will be monitored over the next ten years.

Mark Farber, 410 Emmet Street, addressed the Commission and expressed concerns regarding the Superior Electric project status. These concerns included hazardous waste, the eroding berm, algae growth, the instability of the ground, the absence of native wild life, and prevalence of Skunk Cabbage.

The consultants addressed several of the concerns brought forward by the public. They have been doing post remedial ground water monitoring and are collecting samples. The findings show that the chemicals which are prevalent are naturally occurring in that area. They have had calls with DEEP and they did not bring forward any concerns with the status of the project. The consultants also state that the algae blooms were looked at last week and Skunk Cabbage is a natural component to the wetlands and was present during pre-construction. They are not capping sediments in place rather they are removing large amounts of contaminated sediments and developing a long term monitoring plan.

ERM was asked to provide written responses to the questions that have been submitted to them. They were also asked to provide information on how often the test samples are being taken and the distance between tests. Consultants stated that testing is done quarterly and the results are public. ERM was asked to re-provide previous results and provide new results on a regular basis going forward.

MOTION Move to schedule a site walk.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The motion to schedule a site walk was approved.

STAFF-APPROVED APPLICATIONS:

4. Administrative Applications Approved

Administrative Applications Approved

App.# Approved Administrative	Street No.	Address	Purpose of App.
102001	92	John Avenue	Fence.
102002	42	Woodhaven Road	Fence.
102003	238	Jacobs Street	Restroom addition and rain garden.
102004	77	Winding Brook Road	Shed.
102005	46	Willow Brook Road	Patio.
102006	37	Main Street	Demolition and removal of structure.
102007	42	Paul Street	Horseshoe pit and drain line in process.
102008	76	Vermont Drive	Above ground pool.
102009	117	Collins Road	Propane tank, gas line, and generator.
102010	5	Arlene Drive	Fence.
102011	116	Pondview Lane	Fence.
102012		Memorial Boulevard	Marker and garden.
102013	245	Witches Rock Road	Above ground pool.
Administrative Floodplain Applications			
22-466F-279		Memorial Boulevard	Installation of memorial and garden.

MOTION Move to file report:

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The motion to file the report is approved.

STAFF REPORTS

7. IWE0 Monthly Reports – April 2022

The Commission received the following items in their electronic packets: a copy of the Acting Zoning Enforcement Officer's report, dated March 28, 2022 (seven attached photographs.)

MOTION Move to file report:

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

The motion to file the report is approved

SCHEDULE SITE INSPECTIONS:

6. Chippanee, Superior Electric, & Shrub Road Open Space/Barnes Nature Center

Chippanee – Monday May 16, 2022

Superior Electric – Thursday May 19, 2022 or Thursday May 26, 2022 pending Superior Electric and ERM's availability.

Shrub Road – Will be scheduled at next month's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Move to adjourn at 8:47 P.M.

By: Commissioner Robinson

Seconded: Commissioner Rooks.

For: Rooks, Robinson, Carros, Massaro, Checovetes, Ministro and Fisk.

Against: None.

Abstained: None.

This meeting was taped.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey Schaffrick

Zachary Fisk, Chairman
Inland Wetlands Commission

David Rooks, Secretary