

**Village of Croton-on-Hudson
Water Control Commission Meeting of
May 18, 2016**

PRESENT: Stuart Greenbaum, Chair
 Ian Arturo
 Mark Goldfarb
 Gail Sasso

ABSENT: Charles Kane

ALSO PRESENT: Daniel O'Connor, Village Engineer

1) Call to Order:

The Water Control Commission Meeting of May 18, 2016 was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

2) New Business

- a) **Thomas Lewis, Trillium Invasive Species Management, Inc. – 10 Fox Road (Section 67.12 Block 1 Lots 13 and 5) – Application for reissuance of Wetland Activity Permit for second annual treatment of phragmites australis (phragmites australis patch eradication project) within the Jane E. Lytle Memorial Arboretum.**

Karen Jescavage-Bernard, President of the Jane E. Lytle Memorial Arboretum was present tonight to represent Mr. Lewis. She explained that the application was in essence a renewal of the wetland permit issued by the WCC on August 26, 2015. The phragmites australis eradication project is a proposed 7-year program. It is anticipated that the first 2 or 3 years will involve active intervention with an herbicide application and with monitoring in the following years. She added that this application is for the proposed second treatment which will be the same as the treatment in year one.

Dan O'Connor, Village Engineer, asked about the proposed treatment in the third year. Ms. Jescavage-Bernard said Mr. Lewis is hoping for total eradication within 3 years with just monitoring of new growth after that; however, much depends on the Hudson National Golf Club (HNGC) which is required to also treat the phragmites within the golf club at the same time with the same herbicide. She said she wasn't sure if HNGC had performed the treatment last year.

Chairman Greenbaum asked if HNGC had been contacted and Ms. Jescavage-Bernard replied that she did contact the HNGC but had not yet received a response. Chairman Greenbaum and Ms. Sasso both advised that a report from HNGC would be helpful. Mr. O'Connor said he would follow up and check HNGC's annual report.

Mr. Goldfarb asked if any diminution of the phragmites had been noticed. Ms. Jescavage-Bernard said she noticed a late start (2 week lag) of the phragmites growth this year.

The Board then reviewed the draft resolution and Chairman Greenbaum suggested the expiration date for the wetland permit be changed to 5/18/18.

Ms. Sasso made a motion to accept the draft resolution as written subject to the change in the expiration date to 5/18/18. Mr. Arturo seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Members present voting in favor.

The Board then asked Mr. O'Connor to report back to it with regard to HNGC's phragmites treatment.

- b) **Bell Family Trust – 175 Old Post Road North (Section 67.15 Block 1 Lots 8 and 8.01) – Referral from Planning Board for recommendation on issuance of Wetland Activity Permit by Planning Board for disturbance in watercourse buffer zone for driveway improvements and utility installation for proposed 3 lot subdivision.**

Ronald Wegner, Project Engineer, was present tonight to represent the Bell Family Trust. The Board had received the Short Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) and the following drawings as backup documentation:

- Proposed Subdivision for Bell Family Trust:
 - Sheet S-1.0 – Proposed Layout
 - Sheet EC-2.0 – Existing Conditions
 - Sheet SC-3.0 – Site Constraints.

Mr. Wegner explained that the project entailed subdividing an 18.7 acre tract of land with frontage on Old Post Road North into 3 lots. Currently there is a large residence and a small residence on the existing one lot. There is also a long thin appendage running along the northern side of the property. With the proposed subdivision, each of those residences would be on its own separate lot and the third lot would become a buildable lot. The two existing residences share a common driveway which provides access to municipal water and sewer. It is proposed that the third lot use the same common driveway, but that it be extended for water and sewer service.

With the use of the drawings on display before the Board, Mr. Wegner indicated the anticipated disturbance in the watercourse buffer area. He explained that the basic work would take place along the existing driveway. They would need to install the sewer lateral to the property sewer extension. He said also to meet Fire Code, the driveway needs to be increased. That increase would need to be in the wetland disturbance buffer.

Mr. Wegner added that a 6-lot subdivision had been proposed in the past and then those plans were dropped. Approval of a 3-lot subdivision as opposed to a 6-lot subdivision would limit the potential development of the property.

Chairman Greenbaum asked how much encroachment into the buffer would take place. Mr. Wegner replied that the disturbance would only take place in the driveway; under 4,000 sq. ft. would be disturbed, and within the paved areas, any areas dug up would be repaved.

Mr. Goldfarb asked if the widening of the driveway will be blacktop, to which Mr. Wegner replied in the affirmative.

Mr. O'Connor asked if any trees or major vegetation would need to be removed. Mr. Wegner said "No".

Mr. O'Connor told the Board that the original driveway and utility access dates back to the 1920s and was in compliance with regulations at the time.

Mr. Wegner said that the project is looking to minimize earth disturbance which in turn means minimizing erosion. The project will also increase the water pressure on the property which is currently not good.

Mr. Arturo noted that on the Short EAF, the proposed action is located in an archeological sensitive area. Mr. Wegner said that the majority of the Village is in an archeological sensitive area. Mr. O'Connor added that the Planning Board will look into that concern further and that it is a determination of SEQRA.

The Board then made the following recommendations to the Planning Board:

That erosion control measures be taken

That the debris and refuse observed during the site visit be removed from the property

That Best Management Practices be implemented

That the Planning Board take note that the action is listed as taking place in an archeological sensitive area on the Short EAF.

Chairman Greenbaum then asked the 2 gentlemen in the audience if they wanted to speak. The 2 gentlemen gave their names: Alan Milton, a member of HNGC and a Village Resident and Ryan Oliver, Superintendent of HNGC. They said they were at tonight's meeting just to observe.

3) Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Arturo made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2016 meeting of the Water Control Commission. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sasso and the motion passed with a vote of 4 to 0.

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4) Adjournment:
The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

**Toni Cruz
Secretary, Water Control Commission**