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TOWN OF EAST HAVEN INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JULY 12, 2023 AT EAST HAVEN SENIOR CENTER, 91 TAYLOR AVENUE

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

I. Roll Call

The following members were present:

Kristy Porter

Kerry Martens

Michael Sparago

Wendy Bellmore – present via Zoom

Excused: Richard Raffone

Others in attendance:

Jonathan Bodwell, Town Engineer and IWEO Jennifer Coppola, Assistant Town Attorney

Mr. Martens made a motion to appoint Kristy Porter as Acting Chair for the meeting. Mr. Sparago seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed 4-0.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all who were present.

Ill. Review and Action on Prior Meeting Minutes

No action was taken on the minutes.

IV. Application

1. Application No. 2024-001 for 179 & 197 Borrelli Road. Assessor's Map 610, Block 7241, Lot 002 & 003. Owner: Vineyard Sky Farms Corp, Applicant: Vineyard Sky Farms Corp. The application proposes to fill two wetland areas. The project is proposed within regulated wetlands areas and includes filling.

Attorney Coppola reminded the Commission that the application was being received at tonight's meeting and the Commission should decide whether a public hearing should be held on the application. The pertinent Regulations were discussed.

Ms. Bellmore requested that a site walk be scheduled. The applicant's representative, Rodney Galton, addressed the Commission, agreed to the scheduling of a site walk, and explained existing conditions.

Attorney Coppola explained the site walk public hearing procedure.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Martens made a motion to hold a public hearing on Application No. 2024-001 at its August 9, 2023 regular meeting at 7:00 PM. Ms. Bellmore seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed 4-0.

V. Deliberation

There was no deliberation on Application No. 2024-001 as the Commission voted to hold a public hearing.

VI. Wetlands Agent Report

1. 30 Redfield Avenue

Mr. Bodwell explained to the Commission the circumstances related to debris being deposited in the wetlands at 30 Redfield Avenue. Mr. Justin Sotomayor, representing his father, property owner Leonardo Sotomayor who was also present, asked whether fill could be placed in the wetlands to create more lawn area. Mr. Bodwell advised that after removing the construction debris, to fill the area, the property owner would have to obtain a permit. The Commission thanked Mr. Sotomayor for stopping work as soon as he was notified to stop by the Town Engineer and for responding to the Commission.

VII. Appoint Jonathan Bodwell as the Duly Authorized Agent for the Commission

Mr. Martens made a motion to appoint Mr. Bodwell as the Duly Authorized Agent for the Commission. Mr. Sparago seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed 4-0.

The Commission went back to the 30 Redfield Avenue enforcement matter. Mr. Sparago made a motion directing the property owner Mr. Sotomayor to remove the debris placed into the wetlands and Mr. Bodwell will inspect the area following the removal (to ensure any necessary restoration of the wetlands is completed). The Commission will consider any permit application at a later date if the property owner chooses to move forward with an application. Ms. Bellmore seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed 4-0.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Porter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Martens seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed 4-0.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.