

**SUFFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MEETING OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023**

PRESENT: Art Christian, Chairman
Glen Neilson, Vice Chairman
Pat Reilly
Norm John Noble
Gary Phelps
Tom Elmore
Jessica McCue

TOWN ENGINEER Karen Isherwood

PARK'S SUPERINTENDENT Tom O'Brien

CONSULTANT: Keith Morris

CALL MEETING TO ORDER- 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Christian called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Consultant Morris read the agenda. Chairman Christian stated that alternate Commissioners McCue and Elmore shall be voting members in place of Commissioners Famous and Wilcox who were not in attendance.

DECISION:

Permit # 1702 – Town of Suffield (owner) – Installation of double precast box culverts on unnamed brook under Quarry Road – North Street. This property is located on Quarry Road, nearest intersection being Phelps Road 0.5 miles to the north.

Consultant Morris updated the Commission on this application by the Town for the installation of two box culverts under Quarry Road. Each Commissioner has a copy of the application, which includes a letter from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection regarding the Natural Diversity Data Base, a report from Welti Geotechnical, P.C., and a report from New England Environmental Services. The Town Engineer Karen Isherwood then introduced Managing Engineer Kimberly Fletcher of Barton & Loguidice who presented the project.

The majority of the bridge was built in 1970 and is currently in need of repair. The proposal is for the installation of twin box culverts with one being installed at a lower elevation to allow for fish passage during times of low flow. After construction the road will no longer be overtopped during the 100-year storm. The bottom of the culverts shall be lined with natural stream bottom material. The project will result in 0.034 acres of permanent wetland fill with 0.027 acres of wetland created.

Ms. Fletcher then went over the construction sequence in detail. A discussion followed on stabilization of disturbed areas. Consultant Morris asked that copies of any other permits required for the project be forwarded to the Commission when they are obtained.

After further discussion vice Chairman Neilson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McCue, to approve the application of the Town of Suffield for the installation of double precast box culverts on an unnamed brook under Quarry Road with the following conditions:

Suffield Conservation Commission stipulations 1-11 shall apply. (Copy attached).

12. The project is subject to soil and erosion control inspections by the Commission's consultant.
13. The project engineer shall submit biweekly reports to the Commission's agent during active phases of the project. These reports can be submitted via email and shall include scheduling updates, pictures, and any changes to the approved plans.

The plan of record is entitled "Replacement of Quarry Road Bridge No 139001, Suffield, CT., prepared for The Town of Suffield Colin Moll, First Selectman, 83 Mountain Road, Suffield, CT 06078, Sheets 1-13, by Barton & Loguidice, dated May 26, 2022.

This property is located on Quarry Road, nearest intersection being Phelps Road 0.5 miles to the north. This permit is granted in a Summary Ruling, as it is the Commission's opinion that the work will not have a significant impact on regulated areas. This permit shall expire on May 10, 2026. The filing fee has been waived for this project. The motion was carried unanimously.

**PRIOR TO THE START OF ANY WORK ON THIS PROPERTY, PLEASE
SUBMIT THE CONTRACTOR'S COMPLIANCE STATEMENT AND START
WORK NOTICE TO THE CONSERVATION OFFICE.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CONSULTANT'S REPORT:

Consultant Morris stated that the Commission's 2023-24 budget is due. After discussion Chairman Christian stated that he will contact Consultant Morris on Thursday to discuss further. A discussion followed on transferring funds in order to conduct much needed repairs to the barn at Sunrise Park.

Parks Superintendent Tom O'Brien was present and discussed updating the rules for Sunrise Park and posting them at several locations at the park. After discussion, Parks Superintendent O'Brien will prepare a draft rules list that will be discussed at a future meeting of the Commission. The updated rules will include verbiage to allow the park to be closed if unforeseen conditions arise (i.e. bad weather, etc.).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 13, 2022 MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Noble made a motion to approve the minutes after amending them to add his name as being present at the meeting. Commissioner Reilly seconded the motion. The motion with the proposed amendment passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner McCue made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Noble. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Norm John Noble
Recording Secretary