

CITY OF TORRINGTON

LAND USE OFFICE
140 Main Street • City Hall
Torrington, CT 06790-5245



Phone: (860) 489-2221
Fax: (860) 496-5928
www.torringtonct.org

To: Inland Wetlands Commission
From: Jeremy Leifert, City Planner/Wetlands Agent *JL*
Subject: Application WC22-04-02, Torrington Historical Society, Assessor's Map 213 Block 003 Lot 010, John Brown Road (John Brown Birthplace Property). Application to install a boardwalk trail through a bog to connect existing trails on the John Brown Property to the Five Points property on University Drive.
Date: May 23, 2022

The proposed activities within the regulated wetlands and regulated upland review areas in this application include installation of a boardwalk trail through a bog on the above referenced property to connect existing trails on the John Brown Property to the Five Points property on University Drive.

The City of Torrington Inland Wetlands Commission (the "Commission"), based on the oral and written testimony from the applicant and City staff regarding the above referenced application at the May 24, 2022 meeting must:

1. Review the record of the application to determine if all relevant information has been received to render a decision on the application. The Commission may table the application to the next meeting if the record is incomplete.
2. If the application record is complete, review and consider all information submitted in the record for the application, including comments from the City Engineer, to determine if granting of a permit to conduct regulated activities is warranted based on the criteria in Section 10 of the regulations - Consideration for Decision.
3. Make a motion for a decision on the application.

The record contains the following documents (in chronological order):

- Permit application WC 22-02-01 filed on March 8, 2022
- Plans titled "Map Showing Area of Proposed Wetlands Crossing Over Property Owned by The Torrington Historical Society, Inc. off John Brown Road, Torrington, Connecticut" by David J Little, Licensed Land Surveyor, Torrington, CT. Dated December 2021. 1 Sheet. Includes hand notations of trail location by applicant.
- Letter from Torrington Water Company, easement holder, dated March 15, 2022
- Property and boardwalk design pictures by applicant, undated. 3 pages.
- Memo from Jeremy Leifert, City Planner/Wetlands Agent, dated April 12, 2022
- IWC meeting minutes, April 12, 2022 regular meeting

In reviewing the above Inland Wetlands applications, plans, documents, and testimony presented to the Commission at the April 12, 2022 and May 24, 2022 commission meetings, it is my opinion that:

1. The proposed activity is within a regulated wetlands and also within 75 feet of surveyed wetland soils on the subject property, establishing jurisdiction for a permit application to the Commission to conduct regulated activities.
2. The Commission determined that no public hearing is necessary for this application by determining the proposed activities in the application will not have a significant impact on wetlands or watercourses and does not meet other criteria established in section 9.1 of the regulations.
3. The Commission is not required to consider feasible and prudent alternatives to the proposed activities as proposed since the project has not been determined to be a significant activity
4. The proposed activity is consistent with an acceptable use of the property under all applicable laws and regulations
5. Using the criteria in Section 10 of the City of Torrington Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulation as the standard for review, it is my opinion that:
 - a. There are no adverse environmental impacts resulting from the proposed activity
 - b. There are no negative long term impacts to the productivity of the wetlands or watercourses due to the proposed activity
 - c. The proposed activity will not result in irreversible or irretrievable loss of the wetlands or watercourses
 - d. The proposed activity is consistent with the reasonable use of the property and does not negatively impact health and safety

I recommend that the permit application be approved with the following conditions:

1. If the authorized activity is not completed within five (5) years from the initial issuance date of: **May 24, 2022**, said activity will cease and, if not previously revoked or specifically renewed or extended, this permit will be null and void. Any request to renew or extend the expiration date of a permit should be filed in accordance with the Inland Wetlands Regulations of the City of Torrington. Expired permits may not be renewed and the Inland Wetlands Commission may require a new application for regulated activities.
2. The permittee will notify the Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer upon commencement of work and upon its completion.
3. All work and all regulated activities conducted pursuant to this authorization will be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit. Any structures, excavation, fill, obstructions, encroachments, or regulated activities *not specifically identified and authorized herein* will constitute a violation of this permit and may result in its modification, suspension or revocation.
4. This authorization is not transferable without the written consent of the Inland Wetlands Commission.
5. In evaluating this application, the Inland Wetlands Commission has relied on information provided by the applicant. If such information is subsequently proved to be false, incomplete, or misleading, this permit may be modified, suspended, or revoked and the permittee may be subject to any other remedies or penalties provided by law.
6. The permittee will employ the best management practices as outlined in the 2002 CT E&S Guidelines, as may be amended, consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit, to control storm water discharges and to prevent erosion and sedimentation and to otherwise prevent pollution of wetlands or watercourses. For information and technical assistance, contact the Wetlands Enforcement Officer. The permittee will immediately inform the Commission of any problems involving the wetlands or watercourses that have developed in the course of, or that is caused by, the authorized work.
7. No equipment or material including without limitation, fill, clippings, brush, construction materials, or debris, will be deposited, placed, or stored in any wetland or watercourse on or off site unless specifically authorized by this permit. Any such activity not authorized by this permit may be just cause for revocation of the permit.

8. This permit is subject to and does not derogate any rights or powers of the City of Torrington, conveys no property rights or exclusive privileges, and is subject to all public and private rights to all applicable federal, state and local laws. In conducting and maintaining any activities authorized herein, the permittee may not cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the inland wetlands and watercourses of Torrington.
9. If the activity authorized by the inland wetlands permit also involves activity or a project that requires zoning or subdivision approval, special permit, variance, or special exception, no work pursuant to the wetlands permit may begin until such approval is obtained.
10. The permittee will maintain sediment and erosion controls at the site in such an operable condition as to prevent the pollution of wetlands and watercourses. Said controls are to be inspected by the permittee for deficiencies at least once per week and immediately after rains. The permittee will correct any such deficiencies within 24 hours of said deficiency being found. The permittee will maintain such control measures until all areas of disturbed soils at the site are stabilized.
11. Erosion and sedimentation controls are installed and inspected **prior** to start of construction.