

## Applications Committee Minutes

Date: June 17, 2014

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Stamford Government Center  
888 Washington Blvd  
Stamford, CT 06901  
Operations Conference Room --10<sup>th</sup> floor

Roll Call: In Attendance were: Commissioners Griff Trow, Damian Orтели, Ray Redniss, Bob Karp Paul Adelberg, Steve Loeb and Bob Strada and administrator Frank Fedeli

Representing Woodland Cemetery: Attorney Mary Kate Smith, Bob Bromfield, John Pugliese and Matt Popp..

The Meeting was called to Order at 5:43 p.m.

1. The first and only order of business was a review of a storm water and landscaping report of the Woodland Cemetery.

Mr. John Pugliesi, an engineer presented an extensive stormwater management plan to the committee. The plan described three rain gardens located throughout the 38.7 acre cemetery designed to intercept rainwater and runoff so it will not directly drain into nearby Stamford Harbor. The rain gardens cover 7.8 acres.

Landscape architect Matthew Popp presented a landscaping plan for the cemetery that showed limited tree removal, landscaping and replacement trees and plantings in the cemetery, some close to the coastline.

Popp and cemetery representatives emphasized that only scrubweed trees and those girded by vines were cut down, estimating 47 trees were cut down.

Commissioner Redniss expressed grave concerns that many trees were removed, perhaps 200 and the plans depicted threes that had already been removed.

He and other commissioners and staff expressed reservations that extensive work in the cemetery, particularly near the water's edge, was done without approval or permits.

Unanimous concern was expressed tat the work was done and the application review was an after the fact formality.

Attorney Smith noted that a property owner does not require permission to remove tree on private property.

Cemetery officials noted that two land use officials they met with had verbally approved the under discussion and had advised that the work did not encroach on sensitive coastal areas.

Staff noted that one land use official was firm in stating that the cemetery needed a permit to do work so close to the water's edge.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.