

Tom Getz

From: Ron Gagnon [rgagnon@doa.state.ri.us]
Sent: Tuesday, February 29, 2000 3:53 PM
To: Thomas Getz (E-mail)
Cc: Charles Horbert (E-mail)
Subject: Wetlands Task Force Inclusive Meetings / DEM Problem Solving Workgroup Summary

The workgroup met on February 29, 2000 in Conference Room C at 11:00 am.

Present were Chuck Horbert, Michael DeLuca, Derry Riding, and Ron Gagnon.

The pre-application meeting process was discussed:

Meeting requests for projects that have no edge determination, or have not been the subject of a previous application, are handled by OTCA. Wetlands staff do not participate because they are not familiar with the site and cannot offer any assistance or answer questions concerning specific issues.

If the site has an edge determination, or has been the subject of a previous application, a wetlands supervisor will participate in the meeting.

A summary letter is issued after the meeting to the party that requested the meeting, with copies to all that attended the meeting.

The group agreed with the current process and though that the level of participation from the wetlands program was justified under the described circumstances.

Mr. DeLuca suggested that it would be beneficial to have Town or City Planners participate in the Pre-application meetings. This raised some issues, including applicant confidentiality, not all towns have a professional planner on staff that could participate, that were discussed. It was also recommended that the Town/City Planners could send applicants to OTCA if it is clear that they need assistance in understanding the wetland regulatory process.

Three action items were agreed to:

1. Gagnon will prepare a written draft policy that describes the pre-application process. It will include a coordination component with the City and Town Planners that addresses their participation in the process.
2. DeLuca and Derry Riding will look into planning a workshop with the APA to discuss OTCA and the pre-application draft policy and process.
3. Gagnon and Horbert will work on preparing article for publication in the APA Monthly Newsletter.