

TOWN OF POMFRET
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 2010 7:00 PM
POMFRET OLD TOWN HOUSE
(THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED)

Members present: Cheryl Kapelner-Champ, Chairperson; Pamela Cartledge, Secretary; Elizabeth Cartier, Ann Hennen, William Lewis, and Leigh Grossman. Members absent: Walter McGinn, Vice Chairman; Murray Buttner, Lisette Rimer, James Robbins, Eric Johnson, Alternate; Linda Rich, Alternate, and Robert Lussier, Alternate.

I. Call to order at 7:00 p.m. Cheryl Kapelner-Champ, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

II. Seat Alternate as needed – None.

III. Items to be added to the Agenda – None.

IV. Approve Minutes of the May 13, 2010 meeting – Ann Hennen made the motion to approve as written. Bill Lewis seconded. Approved unanimously. Liz Cartier abstained. The June 10, 2010 minutes did not need to be approved. Lois Orswell Award night. July 8, 2010 minutes had no quorum.

V. Citizen Participation – None.

VI. Unfinished Business -

1. Stonewall Update – Lisette Rimer submitted an up-dated, highlighted version of the proposed ordinance. Jim Rivers, First Selectmen was present to discuss the proposed ordinance. There was discussion that the Selectmen and himself showed no indication to pass this. Ann Hennen stated that there has been theft of stonewalls and they are disappearing. We, on this commission is asking for historic and aesthetic reasons to protect the stonewalls and to protect our wetlands too. Rivers stated that there is a system in place for this protection through P & Z regulations. Hennen stated that P & Z did ask for a place for the ordinance in their regulations. Rivers stated that they did not act on putting something of their own in the regulations. Hennen stated that P& Z, Walt Hinchman felt it should be done as an ordinance and should be addressed by the Selectmen. Hennen mentioned that letter that was sent by P & Z to the Selectmen and the letter

was read into the record stating that the P & Z would like an ordinance.

There was discussion about Wade Road getting a cut through to the owner's property. Rivers stated that he and Glen Postemski, Road Foreman went out and looked at the site and give the owner permission to break through the stonewall. There was discussion about a stonewall on Ragged Hill Road also. Rivers stated that we need to run through the system for a real test. There was discussion about the what is a stonewall, removing a stonewall, rebuilding a stonewall, repairing a stonewall, and creating a new stonewall. There was discussion about the ordinance and what some of the wording really meant. The committee will be requested to go back and look at the ordinance and be clear in the meaning of the words. Qualify in the ordinance – 1) subdivision and new home; 2) homeowner to replace, repair, build a stonewall; 3) wetland issue, natural barrier; and 4) historical, aesthetic, value of a stonewall. May include that a person needs to make a specific request to remove, replace, and/or build a stonewall on paper. The committee is to go back and look at these issues. Rivers also reported on the Open Space purchases, Cell Tower, a new build out analysis is due.

2. Proposed Farm Commission Update – next meeting.
3. Aquifer Protection Update – The Economic Development Committee is doing some test borings on the site. The Town will pay the bill.
4. New England Forestry Walk Update – The walk was informative and we thought to write a letter to the Selectmen about a Forestry Management Stewardship Program for the Open Space Purchases.

VII. New Business

1. Breaking into subcommittee work groups as time permits.

VIII. Report of other town committees, subcommittees and workshops

IX. Communication and Mail – None.

X. Citizen Participation – None.

XI. Things to Remember

- a. Pick up trash at Canoe Launch
- b. Bring food items for Food Pantry to Town Hall

XII. Adjournment – Pam Cartledge made the motion to adjourn. Bill Lewis seconded. Approved unanimously.
Respectfully submitted, Betty Morin, Clerk