

**TOWN OF POMFRET**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF FEBRUARY 14, 2008 7:00 PM**  
**POMFRET TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**(THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED)**

Members present: Ann Hennen, Chairman; Walter McGinn, Vice Chairman; Pamela Cartledge, Lisette Rimer, Cheryl Kapelner-Champ, Murray Buttner, Liz Cartier, Cynthia Kirby, Secretary and Carole Buttner. Members Absent: William Lewis and James Robbins.

- I. **Call to order at 7:00 p.m.** Ann Hennen, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
- II. **Seat Alternate as needed – None.**
- III. **Items to be added to the Agenda – Airline trail connection west and Pomfret Times Article.**
- IV. **Approve Minutes of the Meeting of January 10, 2008.** Walter McGinn made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Pam Cartledge seconded. Approved unanimously.
- V. **Citizen Participation – None.**
- VI. **Unfinished Business –**
  1. 2007 Lois Orswell Award. Murray stated that he would work on a nominee for the award. Liz Cartier stated that she would work on a nominee for the award. The event will proceed as usual. Date to be chosen. Clerk to send Pomfret Times Lois Orswell information.
  2. P & Z Workshops – Hennen reported that the P & Z commission is planning to go to Public Hearing in March. The text amendments are up in the air. They were given handouts and asked to go home and review them. We need to have input into the text amendment. Their plan counteracts our Plan of Conservation and their Plan of Conservation and Development. Rimer asked about the contradiction. Hennen stated it is contradicted with large and heavy equipment in a rural residential area. We are advising them to read the Plan of Conservation and Development. They are not looking at our plan. It is going to public hearing in March. We should comment on all the text amendments as well. Next workshop is on Wednesday, 2/20/08. Cartledge asked if we have published our letters in the Pomfret Times. We could do that at our next meeting. Carole Buttner

stated that the letter that Walter Hinchman wrote reflects our opinions and we should excerpt that letter.

3. Review of January 23, 2008 Town Meeting. Hennen stated that the meeting was very well done. We thanked Lisette Rimer and Andy Rzeznikiewicz for the presentation. It came out well. The turn out for the vote was that 800 people voted for the referendum. 1000 votes for the primary.
4. Conservation May Review for Conservation Plan – All maps were reviewed and the clerk will make corrections and put together the updated Conservation Plan.
5. Searles Road – Gravel Removal Application in Wetland Public Hearing. Wetlands did give them a permit. They have opened there public hearing in Planning and Zoning. They will be discussing the gravel removal. We have a letter to be read into the meeting. Go to the P & Z meeting and speak up. P & Z covers the safety issues. We did address the environmental issues.
6. Airline Trail Connection West – Walter McGinn stated that the project is back on tract and has been funded, it is marked in pink ribbon, we marked State Park land with John Folsom. Needs to be reviewed by the State Department. David Smutnick has been contacted and Christian has been contacted for the trails project.
5. Pomfret Times Article – Pam Cartledge presented an article for the Pomfret Times. Liz suggested we put the articles in monthly or semimonthly. Pam needs suggestions for articles.

## **VII. New Business**

1. Conservation Easement Workshop – Preliminary Planning. Hennen reported that she had information for a conservation easement management workshop. P & Z brought it up at their meeting. Together we could sponsor it. They will make a presentation to the IWWC, P & Z, and the Selectmen so we need to meet with David St. Martin, Jim Rivers, and Walter Hinchman to make plans. You need to set up stewards, you need volunteers to go out on people's property, you need to explain to the group(s) how it is done and check on them yearly. Hennen stated she would like to meet with Walter Hinchman and cooperatively ask him to come to our meeting. We would like a cooperative relationship with the easement owners. Murray Buttner explained the process of conserving his property.
2. 2008-09 Budget. Murray Buttner motioned to approve the budget as presented. Carole Buttner seconded. Approved unanimously.

## **VIII. Report of Subcommittees**

- a. Members who attend the other commission meetings report. Liz reported on the Board of Education budget increase of 5.2% with

tuition, salaries and \$36,000.00 for a special student. They are still discussing and a final meeting will be at the end of the month. Ann reported on the Selectmen's meeting and the State is going to provide funds for work on the Airline Trail including possible rebuilding of Railroad Station, bathrooms and an information booth. Bulky Waste in March, May, August and October. There was not much going on. Bob Lussier reported on the Green Team. They are trying to get something going with Bulky Waste to accept plastic. They want to have a town cleanup day with kick off in the spring. Late March early April. Liz stated that there is nothing for the March Pomfret Times.

**IX. Communication and Mail** – Mail was read. Habitat has interesting article on Town Ordinance for vehicles on Town and State Property.

**X. Citizen Participation – None.**

**XI. Things to Remember**

- a. Pick up trash at Canoe Launch
- b. 25 Acres or More Conservation Project, Late Fall.

**XII. Adjournment.** Liz Cartier made the motion to adjourn it was seconded by Pam Cartledge and was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Morin, Clerk