

**TOWN OF POMFRET
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2006
POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL LIBRARY
(THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED)**

Members present: Ann Hennen, Chairman; Jeannett Sullivan, Secretary; David Smutnick, Walter McGinn, Vice Chairman; Jeannett Sullivan, Cynthia Kirby, Alternate, James Robbins, William Lewis, Carole Buttner, Aren Carpenter, Cheryl Kapelner-Champ. Members Absent: Liz Cartier, Ray Liston, and Lisette Rimer, Alternate.

- I. **Call to order at 7:00 p.m.** Ann Hennen, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Seat Alternate as needed** – Not needed.
- III. **Items to be added to the Agenda** – To new business: Explanation of Land Acquisition Fund.
- IV. **Approve Minutes of the Meeting of January 12, 2006.** Walter McGinn made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Jeannett Sullivan seconded. Approved unanimously.
- V. **Citizen Participation** – None.
- VI. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. Conservation Easement Project and Enforcement Officer. Trying to get Walter Hinchman and David St. Martin to go along with the project to alert the Conservation Commission to new easements. Walter Hinchman wants nothing to do with enforcement. We would request WEO and ZEO be given extra time to walk the easements. We can't enforce unless we have a complaint. There was discussion about future and existing easements. The easements would be walked annually with the owner. Ann and Betty will work on getting all the newer easements together. We need copies of the easements and we need to inform owners of the procedure.
 - b. New England Forestry Trail extension. No report.
 - c. Land Acquisition Fund and State Statutes Regulating it. See a. above.
 - d. Joint Commission Workshop – Preview of Project (20 Minutes). We were not prepared at this time.

- e. Update of ERT and Eastern Connecticut Conservation District, Inc. Ann explained the request for the Environmental Review Team (ERT).
- f. Report on Quinebaug Shetucket Corridor Grant-Vernal Pool Study – Paula Coughlin came to the office and spent time getting maps and information.
- g. Mashamoquet Road Bridge Project and Covell Road – Ann attended the Covell Road Bridge meeting and states that the bridge chosen by everyone present was of stone design and the Town would have to pay costs over a “regular bridge” because we want stone. We are writing a letter to Mr. Houle about the Mashamoquet Road bridge design not being done as requested by the commission. Robbins recommended that a representative of this commission meet with Jim Rivers, First Selectman at regular intervals to discuss the design request.
- h. Environmental Award subcommittee report – choosing recipient of the award for 2005 in January 2006. We have some nominees and a decision will be made.

VII. New Business

- a. Judy Jackson resignation – Walter McGinn made the motion to accept the resignation. Jeannett Sullivan seconded. Approved unanimously with the commission’s thanks.
- b. Murray Buttner, New Member request. Walter McGinn made the motion to approve the appointment of Murray Buttner as an Alternate to the Conservation Commission. Jeannett Sullivan seconded. Approved unanimously.
- c. Ann reminded the members to use the travel allowance for meeting they attend.
- d. Grant application was added to the agenda: We have the chance to write a grant for the trails expansion and maintenance. The commission would like to avoid crossing on private property. Bill Lewis made the motion to ask for the grant to prevent crossing on private property and connect to the airline trail and the State Park system. James Robbins seconded. Unanimously approved.

VIII. Report of Subcommittees

- a. Members who attend the other commission meetings report. See b. below.
- b. Trails Report – Walter stated the The Pomfret Recreation Park Development Committee is starting with the mission to finish the infrastructure and a Master Plan for the park. There are issues to be dealt with immediately: water in the driveway, well, septic, irrigation of soccer field, level field and supply water for irrigation

from the pond. James Robbins stated the ZBA meeting was to approve budget, calendar, and Mr. Amaral came to tell the zba that he would appeal the P& Z decision. There was no Selectmen's meeting.

- c. Tufts Survey report – Cynthia presented the commission with a very well done report. There is controversy between educational and a commercial classification. Thank you Cynthia for a well done report.

IX. Communication and Mail – Mail was passed around. Next meeting March 9, 2006.

X. Citizen Participation – Jim Rivers was present and discussed the property across from the town hall, the Frankfeurter Property. The listing has expired. Robbins asked about buying the property with other entities like the Butts property. McGinn asked about breaking it up and adding it to other continuous property and then use some for residential development. Rivers stated that Tufts has shifted its interest to Babbitt Hill Road – Carter's Farm. There was discussion about moving Bulky Waste. Sheldon's property and the DEP permitting was discussed along with recycling. Rivers stated that there has been discussion about the Wolf Den Drive Bridge that needs much repair. DOT wants to condemn. FEMA monies and STEEP grant monies will help defray the costs to the town.

XI. Quarterly Discussion – October, January, April, July

- a. October 05 – letter to conservation people.
- d. End of year discussion in January 2006.
- c. Aquifer Protection regulation.
- e. Canoe Launch plans – kiosk plans, etc. April 2006
- f. Repair Brayton Grist Mill

III. Adjournment. James Robbins motioned to adjourn. Jeannett Sullivan seconded. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Morin
Clerk