

**TOWN OF POMFRET**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2007 7:00 PM**  
**POMFRET TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**(THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED)**

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

- 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** – Pamela Cartledge was seated.
- III. **Items to be added to the Agenda** – None
- IV. **Approve Minutes of the Meeting of December 14, 2006.** Walter McGinn made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Bill Lewis seconded. Approved unanimously.
- V. **Citizen Participation** – Jim Rivers, First Selectman, was present to discuss information on Land Preservation monies. He reported that he has had discussion with the Board of Finance as to this fund and is gathering information. There are properties in the town that are important to protect. Rivers also reported on the need to get all commissions and boards involved and educated. The trailhead behind the Town hall has an application in the IWWC. Rivers stated that the Conservation Easement project is on the table with the need for the IWWC, P & Z and Conservation Commission to work together.
- VI. **Unfinished Business**
  - a. Easement Project and Oversight. See above – Jim Rivers.
  - b. Farm Ordinance Update – Pam was not present tonight as she was attending a meeting in Thompson.
  - c. Trailhead behind the town hall update - See above – Jim Rivers.
  - d. Reappointments – done.
  - e. Airline Trail Cleanup Project – Betty Morin stated that she spoke with John Folsom of Mashamoquet Park and he is willing to work with the group on the cleanup as the Airline Trail is under his jurisdiction.

## VII. New Business

- a. Land Acquisition Fund – Town Contribution. Hennen stated that Jim Rivers' report was good news and welcomed.
- b. Recreation Park Conservation Commission Trail Map - McGinn will re-send the map to the clerk. We have e-mail from Holly Drinkruth but no information.
- c. Lois Orswell Award Nominees and selection. This will remain on the agenda.
- d. Appoint a Subcommittee to Update Conservation Plan - Pam, Bill, Lizette and Jamie will work on the project. We need to add our Land Use power-point, compare our plan to the State's Plan, Update maps, add vernal pool map and conservation easements map.
- e. Dawn Adelitta, Speaker on Acquiring Open Space. Dawn came at 8:00 to speak about how the Town of Woodstock created their Open Space Group. She had a hand out with the pertinent information and a powerpoint handout as well. She explained the differences in what people perceive as Open Space. They are more concerned with the preservation of the Farm. They used study circles, essay contests for children through the schools, they got the vote out, farming is an agricultural business with other support services in the town, certified mailings for information, ordinance, work with realtors and developers. They want the funds in a capital expense program, arguments of taxation, revenue, lot sizes, tax incentives and farm land preservation versus Open Space preservation. They are a Citizen's Action Group, there is a private land trust called New Roxbury Land Trust, and they had big fights over preservation. They had house parties to get the word out, they advertised in newspapers including the New York Times, going to meet people where they hang out, and take the educational approach, be positive. The commission members asked questions and were given ideas on how to proceed for future needs. Her e-mail is [dadiletta@stowecenter.org](mailto:dadiletta@stowecenter.org).
- f. Possibility of Joint meeting with other Town Conservation Commissions. Keep on agenda.

## VIII. Report of Subcommittees

- a. Members who attend the other commission meetings report. Liz Cartier reported that there is a special meeting on Wednesday about the addition or new school.

## IX. Communication and Mail – Mail was passed around and read.

## X. Citizen Participation – None.

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

- a. Trails Grant Application, we were rejected for our request of 2006.  
New trails installation and connecting to New England Forestry.
- b. Pick up trash at Canoe Launch
- c. 25 Acres or More Conservation Project, Late Fall.
- d. Lois Orswell Award Nominees are needed.

**XII. Adjournment.** Liz Cartier motioned to adjourn. Bill Lewis seconded. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Morin, Clerk