

TOWN OF POMFRET
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2007 7:00 PM
POMFRET TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
(THESE MINUTES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED)

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

- I. **Call to order at 7:00 p.m.** Ann Hennen, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. **Seat Alternate as needed** – None needed.
- III. **Items to be added to the Agenda** – High Priority Parcels under VIII and Moving up a new Alternate under VI g. Walter McGinn made the motion to add the new items and Jeannett Sullivan seconded. Approved unanimously.
- IV. **Approve Minutes of the Meeting of February 8, 2007.** Walter McGinn made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Carole Buttner seconded. Approved unanimously.
- V. **Citizen Participation** – None.
- VI. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. Easement Project and Oversight. Hennen reported that she has been working and meeting with Jim Rivers, David St. Martin and Walter Hinchman. Hennen read the draft letter for the record. The committee needs to work on a letter to all easement holders, we need to get street cards for all holders. We are working on a Forum for the Selectmen, James Rabbitt, Town Planner, Town Attorney, P & Z, and IWWC representatives. Cheryl, Ann and Betty will gather information. We will need to form a group of people to review the easements.
 - b. Farm Ordinance Update – Pam discussed the Farmland in Pomfret as of October 2006 and there are 5960 acres in farmland. 2500 in woodland and tillable D is 2700 acres, 29 acres in orchard and 638 in swampland. This is approximately 25% of the total land mass of Pomfret.
 - c. Trailhead behind the town hall update – This is currently on hold.

- d. Airline Trail Cleanup Project – McGinn reported that the date of the cleanup is 5-26-07 with a rain date of 6-2-07. He and Robbins discussed the volunteers should be asked specifically to participate because it is the first time we do this, insurance issues were discussed, town does have liability insurance and a walk should be done with John Folsom some Saturday in April. We will need to rent brush hogs. A notice for the Pomfret Times is not needed at this time. Hennen to get in touch with Robbins and McGinn. McGinn reported that he mentioned to John Folsom about being turned down for the grant. He stated we should call Lesley Lewis to ask why we were tuned down.
- e. Update Conservation Plan report. Bill, Pam and Ann are working on this project. A Questionnaire was reviewed, changed, and completed for publication on the web and in the Pomfret Times.
- f. Lois Orswell Award Nominees and selection. There was discussion about all three nominees. There were issues with a co designation. There was discussion about what each person is recommended for. There was a motion to approve two candidates together did not pass. There was a second motion made by Jeannett Sullivan to give all three nominees their own award. This was seconded by Bill Lewis. Approved unanimously. We are keeping their names secret till we make the announcement to the public. The date of the Lois Orswell Award Ceremony will be June 14, 2007.
- g. Moving up a new Alternate. Aren Carpenter would like to step down to be an Alternate. W. Murray Butter will become a member of the Conservation Commission as he is next in line.

VII. New Business

None.

VIII. Report of Subcommittees

- a. Members who attend the other commission meetings report. Hennen reported about the Selectmen meeting: there was discussion about a stop sign on Wrights Crossing Road, Borner property on Railroad St. which the State is going to buy, Wolf Den Grange beings used as a Senior Center and Chef Fresh has taken over Steakumms plant. There was discussion about problems in P & Z about trying to remove zoning and public forums for townspeople to have their say to change regulations, Charles Boster was removed as the Pomfret Delegate to NDDH, and there was discussion about the town being opened to a law suit about other issues.

- b. High Priority Properties – Liz Cartier and Cheryl Kapelner-Champ were not present to make a report. A list of vacant land was given to the members present.

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

X. Citizen Participation – None.

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

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

XII. Adjournment. Walter McGinn motioned to adjourn. Jeannett Sullivan seconded. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Morin, Clerk