

TOWN OF DURHAM
Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 11, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman Brian Ameche at the Durham Public Library.

Members Present: Brian Ameche, Ralph Chase, Casey Cordes, Joe Dattilo, Bill LaFlamme,
Bob Melvin

Approval of October and November minutes: Ralph Chase, seconded by Casey Cordes to approve the November 13, 2007 minutes as distributed, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Amendments to Agenda / Approval of October and November Agenda: Ralph Chase, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to approve the agendas as distributed, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Payment of Bills: Bill for \$22.50 to Pam Huntley for secretarial services, and \$40.00 to Bob Melvin for Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC) Annual Meeting registration fee. Ralph Chase, seconded by Casey Cordes to approve the payment of the bills, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Session: none

Approval of Service Project at Curtis Woodlands - Sheehan Michael: Bob Melvin, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to approve the service project presented by Sheehan Michael at the November 13, 2007 meeting, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion on Site Development Plan - Silver Eagle Development Trust retail center on the west side of Main Street north of 147: Ralph Chase, seconded by Bill LaFlamme to recommend the following suggestions to Planning & Zoning: consider decreasing the amount of impervious surface by reducing the number of parking spaces, take a look at the scale of the proposed landscaping and perhaps seek guidance from NRCS in regards to impervious surfaces, and consider alternative storm water management systems because the proposed subsurface storm water management system poses a high risk of ground water contamination, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Site Development Plan Review 33R Hellgate Road Tadeusz Swierczynski: Bob Melvin, seconded by Ralph Chase to recommend to the Planning & Zoning Commission that the area flagged as wetland on the southwest corner of the property should be protected as open space, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Status of Proposed Open Space Acquisitions & Update on the New Phase of Open Space Acquisition Program: Brian Ameche reported that the appraiser has started the appraisal of 3 properties. There was discussion about the article that Adam Moore wrote in the Town Times about preserving the Dahlmeyer property.

Open Space Issues Reports Dead Hill Road & Creampot Road Gates, Signs, Security, Maintenance at Deerfield Farms, Other: Brian Ameche checked the gates for locks. Curtis Woodlands has a combination lock, Creampot Road is chained closed, Dead Hill Road has a lock, and Saw Mill Road has no

lock. Ralph Chase reported that the new gate on Creampot Road may be installed this week. All the Town of Durham signs that were posted on Pisgah Mountain have been taken down by person(s) unknown. Christina Marks has indicated an interest in joining the Property Stewards group (for Pisgah Mountain).

Open forum with Property Stewards Final Roster: Whites Farm Jack Stahl; Pent Road (Deerfield Farm) Melynda Naples; Howd Road Matt Reed; Pisgah Mountain - Andy Golschneider with BSA Troop 27; Creampot Valley George & Irene Roberts; Curtis Woodlands Rob Williams; Portion of Wimler Property with Public Access Dick Porter; and Sawmill Road Ray Koba: Jack Stahl reported that the dog walkers and airplane folks have done a great job cleaning up trash on Whites Farm after the Fair. He is requesting an additional trash barrel for the area. The 4-wheel drive vehicles are still running around the fields at night. George Roberts reported to Ralph Chase that ATVs were going up the road.

Chair's Report Correspondence, Memorial Plantings Marker for Existing Memorial Plantings for Edwin Eick - Tupelo, Jack Donadio American Dogwood, Austin Ackerman 3 American Hollies, Carl Otte - ?, Frank Behrens - ? & Mr. White - ?; New Memorial Plantings for Roger Newton (white oak) & Charlie Wimler (TBD). Plan to replace 2 maples with water tolerant trees in the Spring: Brian Ameche sent the following program documents supplied by Joe Dattilo to George Zeeb and Richard Eriksen: (1) Draft Memorandum of Understanding for Source Water Protection from Storm Water/Drainage Runoff between Municipalities and Other Entities, (2) Draft Permit Conditions, and (3) CT DEP Erosion and Sedimentation Control Pocket Guide.

Approval of Meeting Dates for 2008: Ralph Chase, seconded by Bob Melvin to approve meeting dates for the second Tuesday of the each month with the exception of February 19, June 17, and November 18 which are the third Tuesday of the month, made a motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: none

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Huntley
Recording Secretary