

Lebanon Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting, 2/7/11
Minutes

Call to order, 4:34 p.m.

Members present: Marc Lang, Emery Gluck, Alton Blodgett, Keith Laporte, Jan Fitter, Howard Wayland, Jon Slate, Toni Willard (4:50)

Member absent: David Scata

Also present: Town Planner Phil Chester, Dennis Latcham of IWC

Motion (AB) to approve minutes of 2/7/11 regular meeting; seconded (EG) and passed unanimously. No audience present.

Dennis Latcham reported that the Witheys, Lebanon residents, have expressed interest in an effort to restore a buffer around the pond next to the Town garage. Dennis has talked with Juliana Barrett of CLEAR, and she is pursuing an \$1800 grant for this project. It was noted that the pond and garage are an unattractive sight at the start of Lebanon Center and the Green. The POCD calls for a new garage and for the salt-sand supply to be covered to stop salt runoff.

Consensus that the first step would be to study the site and devise a plan. WHAMM could be consulted for possible assistance with phragmites. Dennis will let Juliana Barrett know that the ConsCom supports using the grant to begin planning the project.

The ConsCom is planning to schedule an Invasive Species workshop, possibly in June. Juan Sanchez will conduct a vernal pool training workshop April 2 and April 18 at the Audubon Center in Pomfret, but we will be asking him to conduct a free workshop in Lebanon.

Town Planner's report:

Phil noted several grant opportunities he is looking into.

Property 10-G is moving along.

The Indigenous Culture Center, with the support of the Senior Center, would like to continue and expand the vegetable-growing activities at the Senior Center and has requested funds. Motion (HW) to recommend release of NRCS grant funds to the Indigenous Culture Center for ongoing ag. activities at the Senior Center; seconded (JF) and passed unanimously.

Pride's Corner Farms wetlands violation/mitigation was discussed.

Property 10-D: Two appraisals are in. Phil is talking to CFT about matching the Town's contribution (i.e., 12.5% each from Town and CFT). Motion (EG) to recommend that the Town Planner pursue this arrangement; seconded (JF) and passed unanimously.

Motion (HW) to recommend that Phil apply for the Aquarion Water Company Environmental Champion Award; seconded (ML) and passed unanimously.

Phil is pursuing Certified Food Handler status for the Farmer's Market.

The Farmland Preservation Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 7-9 pm, at the Fire Safety Complex.

The Riparian Corridor workshop was a success.

The Joshua's Trust Board vacancy will be filled shortly with a Lebanon resident.

Motion to adjourn at 6:05 p.m., seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Fitter, Sec'y