

Lebanon Conservation Commission  
Regular Meeting, 11/3/08  
**Minutes**

Call to order, 4:42 p.m.

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

Member absent: David Scata

Also present: Phil Chester, Town Planner

Marc asked Jon to act in David's place.

Motion to approve minutes for 10/6/08 regular meeting; seconded and passed unanimously, with Keith, Jon, and Marc abstaining.

No audience present.

A motion was made to approve the proposed meeting dates for 2009, to be the first Monday in each month, except the second Monday in May and September; seconded and passed unanimously.

Planner's report:

Phil reported on progress in drafting the easement for the Rechlin preservation, including a provision that the Conservation Commission will act on approvals required from the Town as easement holder. The Board of Selectmen voted to forward to Town Meeting the request for the Rechlin easement purchase and for \$40,000 for potential appraisals/surveys. These requests will be taken up at the **Board of Finance meeting on Thursday, Nov. 13, and ConsCom members should attend in support.** It is hoped that a Town Meeting will be scheduled in December.

The Board of Selectmen voted to authorize the First Selectman to apply for the USDA/NRCS grant to fund the conservation easement for the Slate property.

Phil reported on progress regarding preservation of parcels not yet rated.

Nothing to report on N.U. license for Commons Hill foot path. Follow-up with Town attorney pending.

Phil reported on the expansion of the Card Street substation. The proposed expansion will harm the character of the vicinity, but legally the Town's power is limited. Phil explained specific measures the Planning and Zoning Commission will request to reduce resulting neighborhood degradation. A motion was made to add Conservation Commission support to comments in the PZC's letter to N.U. regarding the Card Street substation expansion; seconded and passed unanimously.

Phil noted that the first POCD advisory committee meeting will be on Nov. 10.

Discussion of the agricultural preservation survey. Members will e-mail or deliver their comments to Phil before the Thursday morning deadline.

The three pending individual plaques for preservation will be presented at the probable December Town Meeting. For the Town Hall plaque honoring all preservers, Wayne Budney will pay for a 60-name plaque with a scenic farm-oriented ornament at the top (\$110+). The Conservation Commission will pay for the nameplates for existing and future preservers (\$2.75 each; around 20 names to start). The order with Recognition Products is underway. Jan will research who has preserved to date.

Old/new business: Marc sent "conservation options" letters to three property owners. No responses so far.

Motion to adjourn at 5:50 pm; seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Fitter, Ass't Chair/Sec'y