

Lebanon Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting, 12/5/11
Minutes

Call to order, 4:31 p.m.

Members present: Marc Lang, Jan Fitter, Keith Laporte, Emery Gluck, Jon Slate, Howard Wayland, Toni Willard (c.4:45)

Members absent: Alton Blodgett, David Scata

Also present: Town Planner Phil Chester, Selectman John Bendoraitis

Jon was appointed acting alternate.

Motion (JF) to approve minutes of 11/7/11 regular meeting; seconded (KL) and passed unanimously.

For the record, John did not actually intend to be an agenda item. He is attending as audience.

Discussion of property 11-1 and open space funding in general.

Collection of \$25 donations to the Open Space Fund. Members who forgot will deliver to the Finance Office tomorrow.

A Democrat sign was given to Keith.

David Scata's letter of resignation was circulated. Motion (ML) to accept David's resignation and to recommend to the Board of Selectman that Alternate Jon Slate be appointed to fill David's seat as a full member; seconded (HW) and passed unanimously.

A motion was made (JF) to request and recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the name of our commission be changed to the 'Agriculture and Conservation Commission,' and that our role as Agriculture Commission be added to our charge in the ordinance governing our commission. Also recommend that the ordinance specify that a non-voting seat be created on our commission for a high school student who is a member of Future Farmers of America. Motion seconded (EG) and passed unanimously. It is our feeling that this will better reflect the reality of what we do.

The vacant alternate seat on our commission was discussed. Consensus that we should try to recruit a full-time farmer to fill the seat.

A motion was made (HW) to revise the farmland rating sheet to read "Development probability" (rather than "Development pressure") and to add the rating item "Estimated House Yield"; seconded (JS) and passed unanimously.

Discussion of possibly re-rating 2011 properties tabled to next regular meeting.

Consensus that the Commission is pleased that North Street has been designated a scenic road with PZC approval. Discussion of the need for a sign and of the condition of the pond-work site at the Upper Exeter Brook crossing.

Jan received a reply from John Dicastro of DOT relating to the beaver dam at the Exeter Brook crossing of Rte. 207. Consensus that she should draft a reply acknowledging Mr. Dicastro's indication that DOT crews will refrain from performing any work at this site.

Keith reported that he and Marc have probably learned all that the CACIWC annual conference has to offer them, but it is a valuable resource and members are encouraged to attend.

Motion to adjourn at 5:31 p.m., seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Fitter, Sec'y