

Lebanon Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting, 2/7/11

Minutes

Call to order, 4:37 p.m.

Members present: Marc Lang, Emery Gluck, Alton Blodgett, Keith Laporte, David Scata (4:45),
Jan Fitter, Toni Willard (4:50)

Members absent: Howard Wayland, Jon Slate

Also present: Town Planner Phil Chester

Toni was seated as alternate. Motion (JF) to approve minutes of 12/6/10 regular meeting
seconded (ML) and passed unanimously. No audience present.

Town Planner's report:

Pride's Corner Farms has offered the Town three conservation easements as part of a wetlands violation/mitigation settlement they are negotiating with DEP and the Army Corps of Engineers. Consensus that the commission cannot recommend acceptance of these easements, which are small and separated. The commission would be more interested in a single contiguous easement of 6 or 7 acres in a location that is beneficial to the community and environment.

The Board of Finance has committed to including \$100,000 for the Open Space Fund in the budget that will go to referendum.

Because of recent changes in CFT's grant policies, the Town's matching contribution to the USDA easement grant for property 10-G would be \$17,500, based on the appraisal. Consensus that depleting the Open Space fund by this amount could hamper other, more highly rated initiatives. Phil will inform the owners and ask if they will increase their donation portion of the easement value, so that the Town's contribution would be \$11,750.

Riparian Corridor Workshop: Tuesday Feb. 15, 7:00, Town Hall. Marc will provide Farmer's Cow lemonade, tea, and cookies.

The next Windham County Conservation Consortium meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, at the Extension Service on Wolf Den Road in Brooklyn. The guest speaker will be Connecticut State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni. Because of space limitations of their meeting room it will be necessary to make reservations. I forgot to mention that since Lebanon is in NL County, we are not official members of the Consortium. Windham County conservation commissions get first crack, but they'll open to others if not full. If you are interested in going, let me know before March 1.

Phragmites, beavers, and an odor, all near the Exeter Brook bridge on Exeter Road, were discussed.

Alton reported that he spoke with Ray Yarmac of the SWC; the transfer station is not set up for single-stream recycling at this time, but all numbered plastic may now be recycled.

Motion (KL) to adjourn at 5:31 p.m., seconded (EG) and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Fitter, Sec'y