

Lebanon Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting, 6/7/10
Minutes

Call to order, 4:35 p.m.

Members present: Marc Lang, David Scata, Jan Fitter, Jon Slate, Emery Gluck, Howard Wayland, Keith Laporte, Toni Willard (c. 4:40)

Member absent: Alton Blodgett

Also present: Town Planner Phil Chester

Jon Slate was appointed acting alternate, Toni having not yet arrived.

Motion to approve minutes of 5/10/10 regular meeting seconded and passed unanimously.

No audience present.

The commission recognized Emery's good article on upland forest ecosystems, published in the spring issue of CACIWC's journal *Habitat*.

Phil reported that the Spalding Pond owner is working on the orders given by IWC, including contacting DEP.

Phil and Marc visited the sites of the CSA grant winners, found them to be as described, and reviewed with the grantees stipulations like allowable expenditures and the need to present receipts. Each will receive \$250 now and \$250 when the plan is completed and receipts presented.

Two submissions were received by the deadline for the agricultural writing contest, one from Frank Himmelstein and one from Mary Lou Beckwith. Both grew up in town. Consensus that both submissions are equally deserving, emphasizing different aspects of farm life and character. The prize will be awarded equally -- \$75 each. Jan will contact each to work their articles into shape for publication in *Lebanon Quarterly*. Possibly write an introduction observing that these articles focus on farm life in the past and that we hope to hold a future contest that will attract more from young people on Lebanon's life on farms today.

Discussion of possibly repeating the contest, with better publicity in the schools. If money is not available, the prize could be some kind of honor. Consensus on the need to set clearer criteria for judging in the event we receive multiple submissions.

Jan attended a workshop on conservation easements at GVI and received information and materials that can be used for the monitoring planned this fall and for future easements.

Discussion of a property 09-H (previously numbered during discussions last fall). This parcel needs to be rated at the July meeting. Jan will include on agenda.

Marc will line up Commons Hill sign work so as to exhaust money remaining in the 2009 commission operating budget. The Town will provide and erect a sign at the eastern end of Schalk Road warning that the rte. 87 end of the road is gated.

Townwide mailing to promote open space fund and conservation efforts: draft hoped for by July meeting. Grant money should allow a substantial brochure. Discussion of content – value of open space and ag protection, public use.

Work now being done by Paula Stahl on the value of agriculture in Lebanon should help support this point in outreach.

Charter green lights – apparently a nonissue; they're present in town and we've had no indication that they particularly bother anyone.

Motion to adjourn at 5:32 p.m., seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Fitter, Sec'y