

Woodstock Conservation Commission (WCC)
Town of Woodstock
Monthly Meeting: September 29, 2008

Meeting Commenced: 7:35 pm

In attendance: Jean Pillo, Dave Volz, Medora Fraga, Suzanna Dwyer
Guest: Grace Jacobson

Medora moved to approve last month's minutes. Suzanna seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

Medora reports nothing new. Discussed two items: expenditure for "minute books". (Minutes are photocopied into it.) Town Clerk will put minutes into the book. \$125 per book. One book = approx. 4 years. Needs to be line item in WCC budget. This book is a regulatory requirement.

Submitting bills re: expenses. If over \$50, needs to be in minutes of WCC meeting. Chairperson or Treasurer needs to fill out a purchase requisition and provide copy of bill. This is required for Town Treasurer.

Communications:

Town of Woodstock, "Know Your Local Government" for January 2009. Definition of Boards, rules, reporting, etc. plus Town Directory including name, term and political party.

John Navaro, at Public Works, promoted to Highway Foreman.

Jean needs to send next year's (2009) WCC calendar of meetings ASAP.

Invitation to November 8, 2008 workshop/annual meeting Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetland Commissions. CC members encouraged to attend. Cost \$40/registration.

Letter re: Last Green Valley program for 2009.

Town of Woodstock: new "Green Energy Committee". Jean discussed. Suzanna brought in copies of Town's description of Committee and how to sign up.

Newsletter from UCONN's College of Natural Resources.

Old Business:

Development Review Committee – No report.

Woodstock Academy has met frontage requirements re: expanded sports field/complex. Development Review Committee to meet to discuss new information including Stream Walk report

Open Space – No report.

DEP's open space criteria different than WCC. They don't include conservation easements. This should potentially allow Woodstock to qualify for more open space funding.

Forestry – No report.

Send letter of appreciation to Steve Broderick for services rendered over the years. He is retiring.

Website Updates – No report.

Celebrate Agriculture Day – estimated attendance: 3 – 4,000 people. WCC had display regarding green energy options, vernal pools, etc. Well received.

Trails Inventory – Jean walked/hiked 50-acre wood. Trails need help. Significant brambles. Needs better trail markers. Trail map would be helpful. Boy or girl scouts could be approached re: project, or high schools or church groups re: community service hours. (There are car parts on the property that need to be cleaned up also.)

Beeches Property – Per Jean, trail is not ready. Sand/gravel mine in the middle of it. Erosion gullies observed on sloped crush gravel paths. No soccer field, unmarked canoe/kayak launch in place.

Watershed signage – ok from Roseland Park Board of Trustees to put these up. Can use EPA posters if desired.

Vernal Pool Inventory – Report was printed and displayed at Celebrate Ag Day. Cheryl applied for 2nd year of funding for WCC. Jean asked Grace to consider coordinating the program for next year (2009). After significant discussion, Grace agreed. Grace suggested we actively advertise/get the word out in order to get volunteers for field work, especially residents and high schoolers.

Source to Sea – Jean discussed plan and locations, including weekend events, in order to educate people about water resources. WCC is co-sponsoring.

Open Space Plan – WCC will have to work on it “online” and via “teaming by phone”.

Medora reiterated that the Town’s Inland Wetlands Agency needs volunteers so that it meets quorum requirements for monthly meetings.

New Business:

WCC should consider development of a policy regarding hunting on Town-owned lands. This is something that requires further discussion at future WCC meetings, starting next month.

Open Discussion:

Dave attended a well-water workshop and gave a brief recap. He considered it basic water 101 with it covering aquifers, recharge, chemicals, state regs, etc. and was somewhat disappointed that it wasn’t more in depth.

Jean will provide more info on upcoming workshops at next month’s meeting.

8:42 pm – Call for meeting to adjourn by Medora. Seconded by Dave.

Meeting adjourned 8:43 pm.

Minutes prepared by Suzanne Dwyer