

Woodstock Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 28, 2009

Time: 7:35 pm

Place: Meeting Room A Woodstock Town Hall

Members present: C. Adams, A. Colt, M. Fraga, G. Jacobson, B. Zimmerman, J. Pillo

Members of the Public: None.

Approval/amendment of August minutes: Adams motioned to accept and Fraga seconded – minutes accepted.

Seating of Alternate/New Members: Ani Colt was approved as new member. Spoke of disposition of Graham as a member. Pillo had contacted him by e-mail, asking if he wanted to remain on the Commission, and when she did not hear back assumed he was not interested, but later we learned the email address we had for him is no longer valid. *ACTION:* Jacobson agreed to telephone Graham and ask him to be an Alternate, as the group feels his contributions are useful and important, and that the letter regarding resignation was a misunderstanding and not the intent of the Commission as a whole. There are still three Alternate positions available. Per Pillo, Very has resigned the Commission. *ACTION:* List of members will be updated per Zimmerman.

Treasurer's Report: Fraga gave accounting to date we have a balance of \$689. Discussion of \$150.00 donation which was given to the Last Green Valley (LGV) instead of the Green Valley Institute as intended (due to confusion over the address.) The CC agreed to let the donation to the Last Green Valley stand and to cut a new check for the Co-occurring Resource Analysis. Decision to wait for invoice from GVI before sending out a check. Reviewed monies needed for members to attend upcoming events to ensure we have enough funding in our account. Colt and Adams expressed interest in going to CACIWC meeting in November.

Communications: Communications received included a copy of Colt's appointment to the Commission, Notice from Windham County Extension Council of talk on Oct. 18th "Agricultural & Natural Resources Open House, thank you letter from LGV for our donation, notice from them also in reference to itemizing your expenditures. *ACTION:* Pillo said she would pull out and resend to them.

Development Review Committee Report: No report. Next meeting will be October 13th. Some discussion about possibly combining this meeting with our regular meeting vs. having a separate meeting. Suggestion was made to possibly change the regular meeting time to 7 p.m. vs. 7:30 p.m. Jacobson noted this would require a change to our by-laws. Decided to discuss with the rest of the Commission members before taking action which, according to the by-laws can be done with a majority of the commission voting. *ACTION:* Pillo to add to October agenda.

Conservation Easement Project: H. Hartland reported to Pillo that she was able to take pictures at several different properties but was not able to obtain the GPS coordinates.

OSLAC: Adams attended the meeting but the committee was not notified of her appointment as the CC Representative so she was not allowed to participate in the Executive Session. *ACTION:* Jacobson agreed to e-mail D. Adiletta to inform her that Adams is now our representative.

OSCP/PoCD: Pillo confirmed that we will be partnering with P&Z to develop a new plan that will be beneficial to the town. The CC A Plan of Open Space and Conservation will be incorporated into the Town of Woodstock POCD. A list of proprieties was generated and added to form that Pillo had previously filled out and she said that she would be responsible to deliver it to P&Z team by leaving it in Delia Fey's mailbox.

Green Team: No representative. Woodstock is now the first town in CT to be designated a green town.

Vernal Pools: Jacobson reported that the season is over for this year. Will resume in Spring 2010 if Dziura-Duke doesn't wish to resume, as originally expressed by her. Location of several vernal pools identified on Pole Bridge Rd. and will be investigated next spring with permission from landowner.

Conservation Easement: Reviewed fact that we are behind in inspection and marking conservation easements. this area. Agreed to try to go out on November 7th to mark one easement, with a Spring date to be determined later.

Forestry: No report. *ACTION:* Jacobson will again try to contact S. Dwyer by phone to see what her intentions are.

Co-Occurring Resource Analysis: Pillo promised to try and get info necessary to update parcel list. Some difficulties with other responsible parties responding and time constraints for her. Discussion of Mammal Tracking going on in other areas that we might be able to tap into. *ACTION:* Fraga will touch base with Paula Coughlin to inquire.

Rain Garden Challenge: No one responded, but that may be due to a lack of publicity. Discussed doing it again next year and some ideas as how to make a demonstration project noticeable to townspeople. Discussion followed as to some possible location. Decision was made that we will start working on this very early next year to ensure better coverage and notification in town.

Celebrating Ag Day: Decided that day went well in spite of several slight problems. Will request that music not be in the same building as displayed as it was hard to talk to visitors. Next year will be improved with planning done more in advance to ensure that we don't fall into only one person being responsible for so much of the work to be done. Jacobson suggested purchasing a new, smaller lighter weight display board for the Commission with information for the public. Decision to put monies in budget for next fiscal year to purchase one that is much more portable. *ACTION:* Jacobson will bring the one she has purchased for all to see at next meeting. The existing handmade board could be used for displays at the Town Hall.

New Business: None

Open Discussion: Discussion of use of a logo for the display board to help define us. *ACTION:* Zimmerman to update agendas and minutes of meetings to update the website. She sent a notice of an upcoming talk of CCC history. She also noted that Camp Nahaco has been awarded a \$250,000 STEAP grant. Pillo offered a training she is conducting in Norwich for RBV monitoring.

Upcoming workshops: CACIWC on November 14.

Zimmerman moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Fraga at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Grace Jacobson, Secretary

Note: These minutes may be amended prior to approval at the subsequent Conservation Commission meeting