

Woodstock Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room A

Members present L. Davidson, J. Pillo, A. J. Purcell, M. Robie & L. Wesler

Members absent - C. Adams, J. Audette, G. Jacobson, & J. Stern

1. Meeting called to order at 7:03p.m.

2. Seating of alternates – None

3. Public participation – F. Olah wanted to extend his understanding of the Salt Shed issue and explain what he personally has done in writing letters and being in touch with some of our State Representatives in what he has dubbed our “Flint, MI” disaster. He also wanted to thank the commission for being so proactive in trying to get some action for these Woodstock residents and to assure us that this issue wouldn’t be swept under any rugs. Discussion on next steps needed i.e. testing of wells and waterways to determine the extent of damage. Suggestions of informing the public to have their wells tested brought up the fact that the company that does the testing has in the past offered a discount when more than one person signed up. F. Olah offered to help in anyway that he can in this and any other issues that come up as long as he is made aware of it.

4. Approval/Amendment of minutes - Tabled as nobody read the minutes that were sent via email- as always on Sept. 25th.

5. Chairperson’s Report – To be covered under Old Business.

6. Treasurer’s Report – \$674 in budget and the \$2,000 paid for the Forest Management Plan has been added back into our Special Fund. Noted that an extra person was paid for and M. Robie said she would try and attend the CACIWC conference.

7. Communications – Letter for donation from Land Conservation Council, letter from Last Green Valley asking for amount of hours towards conservation G. Jacobson was asked to compile such a list and submit to LGV. Copies of Habitat publication were also received.

8. Old Business:

a. DRC Report – Met to evaluate what our commission wanted to say in reference to changes being suggested by P&Z to the subdivision rules and notice of application for a driveway on a scenic road and why there should be more research done before granting this application.

b. OSLA&APC – Nothing concerning WCC at this time.

c. P&Z report – No report.

d. Ag Commission report - No report

e. Salt Shed – Report of BOS meeting on this issue was very productive and very well attended by our commission and the public participants who are impacted the most by this problem. Many of the issues faced by our neighbors were discussed at length bringing this issue to the forefront for not only the Selectmen but also all in attendance with assurances that there would be follow thru. F. Olah assured the affected homeowners that he would help in contacting the Assessors at the Board of Appeals to address the property taxes these people are paying for houses that are next to unlivable. Discussion ensued about ways of having people informed about the need to have their wells tested and possible means of getting the word out and knowing the extent of the damage and ways of addressing it.

f. Stewardship - No report

g. P&Z regs – Discussed the reading of letter to P&Z that L. Wesler read at their meeting on the 18th of October which stated our concerns with the proposed changes to several items. It was noted that there was a lack of understanding of these proposed changes not only on the part of the public but also by members of the P&Z commission itself. It was proposed that our commission write a rebuttal document which L. Davidson offered to draft and send along to L. Wesler before she leaves us for her trip to New Zealand at which point she asked to be kept informed as to what was going on until she returns.

9. New Business:

- a. Notice/review of past /upcoming Workshops –J. Pillo will be doing a presentation at WCCC on the 29th.
- b. Open Discussion
 - 1. Review of BOS meeting – covered above under Old Business.
 - 2. Review of Town Meeting at P&Z - covered under Old Business.

10. Adjournment – 8:10 pm. Motioned by J. Pillo seconded by A.J. Purcell all in favor.

Note: These minutes have not yet been approved by the Conservation Commission. Please refer to minutes from the next meeting for approval/amendments. Respectfully submitted by G. Jacobson, WCC Secretary