

WESTBROOK CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Corrected Minutes – February 15, 2011

Members present: Chairman Tom ODell, Marty Marx, Bob Peterson, Mike Oryl, Randy Bell, Don Harger and John Rie.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairman Tom ODell.

Minutes – December 21, 2010

Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by John Rie, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the minutes of December 21, 2010, as amended.

Bills: Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Randy Bell, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the payment of the following bills:

\$8.24 and \$53.54 to Kathleen Kelemen for Secretarial duties and \$911.00 to CRCCD for the fall monitoring of plots.

Correspondence:

1. Notice of Board of Selectmen Budget Hearings.
2. Notification of current policy for bill paying from the Board of Finance.
3. Copy of January, 2011 ZEO Report.
4. Copy of Zoning Commission Legal Notice for March 14, 2011 Public Hearing.
5. Copy of 12/28/10 Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes.
6. Copy of letter dated 2/8/11 from DEP to Pilot's Point regarding a Permit.
7. Copy of January 2011 IWWC Enforcement Officer Report.
8. Copy of Town & City news letter.
9. Copy of 1/4/11 IWWC Meeting Minutes.
10. Copy of 1/25/11 Zoning Commission Meeting Minutes.

Chairman's Report:

- Information regarding Municipal Liability for Recreational Activities on Certain Open Space Lands was distributed.
- Chairman ODell stated that there has been too much snow and ice to access Horse Hill Woods.

Open Space Program:

- **Salt Island Overlook – LISFF Grants: restoration, education, parking**
Chairman ODell distributed a resume and proposal from Penelope Sharp for environmental services including detailed site inspections of the property and preparation of a planting plan to be submitted with the grant application. Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Marty Marx, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to accept the proposal as submitted from Penelope Sharp. The grant submission is due by 3/18/11.
There was discussion regarding the parking grant for the establishment of a parking area. There was also discussion about the USPS moving their exit/entrance to the west and combining their entrance with ours. This proposed change would be located across the Boston Post Road from the entrance of Westbrook Heights Road.

- **Chapman Mill Pond – Fence and signage. Lake weed control:** A proposed supplemental addition to the Management Agreement between Edward and Harriet Sciongay and the Town of Westbrook was submitted by the Lake Laconia Homeowners Association. Chairman ODell stated that he thinks the Town Attorney will have a problem with the proposal. The Association appears to want control of what docks can be built. The Town of Westbrook does not have to have any agreement with them for the management of the lake. Chairman ODell distributed a draft of what he feels should be appropriate. The members of the Commission feel that there should be no mention of docks in the agreement. John Rie stated that there are already enough regulations in place from Zoning, DEP, etc. Chairman ODell will forward both documents to Attorney Wells for review.
Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by John Rie, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously that the Commission should have an agreement with Lake Laconia Home Owners Association for management of the lake and to have the Town Attorney review what was submitted from them and the draft created by Chairman ODell.
Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by John Rie, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously that the Conservation Commission request that the Commission be delegated as the responsible party for the management of Lake Laconia in the supplemental addition to the Management agreement.
- **Management of dead Hemlock trees:** The Manager of Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge looked at the area with Chairman ODell and he stated that they are willing to put together a “work agreement” to remove some of the dead hemlocks on the ridge and the emergency road, as a treatment to enhance reforestation and protect water quality at no cost.
- **Open Space Plan: Green Infrastructure: Update:** Chairman ODell stated that wrote an article for The Habitat on Westbrook CT Open Space Plan – A Green Infrastructure Strategy. He asked the Commission for guidance on the title for the open space plan.

Plan of Conservation and Development

Chairman ODell distributed the results of the POCD Survey. The Committee is still working very hard.

Old Business:

- **Zoning Referral: Z2010-11: 1333 Essex Road (CT Water Company): Special Permit Application for the replacement of an existing 10ft X 10ft prefab building with a 12ft X 16ft prefab building and associated site improvements, involving 10.2 acres:**
The Zoning Commission approved this application with stipulations.
- **Draft Stormwater Management Regulations – Hearing March 14, 2011:**
Chairman ODell stated that he made some recommendations regarding the regulations and they were incorporated into the proposal. The Public Hearing

will be held on March 14, 2011 and will also include other proposed regulation changes.

New Business:

- **Commission Budget – Selectmen’s review:** The Board of Selectmen did not make any changes to the proposed budget submitted by this Commission,.
- **Finance Director Meeting:** Chairman ODell will be meeting with Andrew Urban, Director of Finance tomorrow. Upon a motion by John Rie, seconded by Randy Bell, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to give Chairman ODell the authority to approve the payment of invoices for \$200.00 or less and to give a report of any payments at each meeting of the Commission to allow payment of invoices in a timely manner.
- **Aquifer Protection Regulations: proposed changes and Accessory Apartments: Proposed new regulations** Chairman ODell stated that he review the proposed regulations and did not find any areas of concern.

Reports:

- a. **Planning Commission:** Nothing to report.
- b. **Zoning Commission:** Nothing to report.
- c. **Inland Wetlands:** Nothing to report.
- d. **Harbor Commission:** John Rie stated they will dredge the rest of the entry channel. They do have other areas of concern. They are looking into joining in with Clinton to apply for some funding. They are looking into information to Bond the money for dredging. They are currently looking at all possibilities available. There was a meeting last week with DEP, DOT, Harbor Commission and Town Officials and that went very well. The Shellfish monitoring is still moving forward.

Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by John Rie, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary

Note: Corrections indicated in bold, underlined and italicized print.