

WESTBROOK CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2010

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

Call to Order: Chairman Tom ODell called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes – April 20, 2010: Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Marty Marx, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to approve the minutes of April 20, 2010, as submitted.

Bills: Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by Don Harger, it was:
VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of the following bills: \$15.95 to Kathleen Kelemen for Secretarial duties.

Correspondence:

1. Notification from Treasurer when fiscal year 2009/2010 is closing.
2. Signed water quality certificate for the dredging of Clinton harbor and Patchaug projects.

Chairman's Report:

1. Chairman ODell thanked everyone who attended the Rockfall Foundation Ceremony.
2. All minutes and agendas are to be posted on the town website, but the March Agenda did not make it on there.

Open Space Program:

- **HH Gorge: Parking and potential addition of Ross 7.5 acres:**
Chairman ODell stated that he has received the appraisal from Flannigan Associates of New London. He is charging the Commission \$1000.00.
- **Horse Hill Woods: Schedule GPS review and trail clearing/markings:**
Chairman ODell would like to set something up in June.
- **Salt Island Overlook – LIS Future Fund Grants, Salt Island Overlook restoration:** Chairman ODell stated that he is currently getting estimates for cutting and working on grants. The Habitat grant was actually submitted late, but it was accepted. The Conservation District is applying for a grant for signage and brochures. Woodard and Curren are working with him for the Water Quality Grant. All grants have been submitted and total \$173,081. We will not have answers until October. Most of the restoration will be the replacement of trees. There will be a cost of \$1,000.00 to develop a landscape and planting plan. We are waiting for estimates at this time. McKinley Wildlife has offered to help with the restoration of the trees for Salt Island Overlook, as well as Chapman Mill Pond. Chairman ODell distributed copies of a quote for tree replacement. There may also be a grant available to help with the cost for this.
- **Chapman Mill Pond: Emergency road clearing, dead hemlock cutting:**
Don Harger has gotten a copy of the Management Plan and will be going to look at the property. The Sciongay's will be getting together with the homeowners association next week to discuss them helping with the cleaning of the pond.

Mulvey Environment Education Walkway: Intern: Chairman ODell stated that John Rie is working on possibly changing the harbor line, but feels this will be very difficult to do. Brendan (the employee from last year) will start work on Friday and will work 2-3 days per week. He may also do some clearing on the road to the gorge.

Plan of Conservation and Development: There was a workshop held last night. They are still working on the town center and other business/industrial areas in town.

Old Business:

- **Mapping ground water recharge areas: Comments on presentation:** Don Harger thought the presentation was great and very helpful. Bob Peterson stated he would like to see newer maps used. There was discussion of how the Town will be able to use this information to help make land use decisions. Chairman ODell will do a write up to submit to the next newsletter with information on this presentation.
- **Russo Conservation Sub-division: IWWC Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing has been postponed until June.
- **Zoning Appeal No. 10-06: Lot 17 Pointina Road: to allow 6.1' set back where 50' is required:** Chairman ODell stated that ZBA is supposed to make a decision next Thursday. A letter was received from the applicants Attorney to this Commission, which was read for the record. They have requested certain documentation and Chairman ODell has responded to the letter with all the information that could be provided. There was discussion of whether it would be appropriate to notify an applicant if they are on the agenda.
- **DEP Application No. 201001037 – JW Prop. Of Widlitz, 830 Boston Post Road to install fixed pier, ramp and floating dock for private recreational boating:** Chairman ODell stated that John Rie has the information regarding this matter and is not present tonight.
- **IWWC Referral: Applicant David Scranton: South side of Boston Post Road, Assessors Map #28, Lot #S116:** The IWWC Public Hearing was continued to the June Meeting.

New Business:

- **Zoning appeal No. Z2010-07 – General Store, 631 Boston Post Road:** The application before Zoning is a request for a change in use to expand into a restaurant with seating for 26.

Reports:

- Planning Commission: Nothing to report.
- Zoning Commission: Nothing to report.
- Inland Wetlands Commission: Nothing to report.
- Harbor Commission: Dredging is currently being done.
- Town Center Committee: Nothing to report.

Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to add “Salt Island Overlook Parking Lot Conception Plan” on the Agenda

Salt Island Overlook Parking Lot Conception Plan

Chairman ODell stated that the Commission has already approved the expenditure of \$500.00 for putting together the Parking Lot Conception Plan, but the cost is actually \$600.00.

Upon a motion by Mike Oryl, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$600.00 instead of \$500.00 to put together the conceptual Parking Lot Plan.

Upon a motion by Marty Marx, seconded by Don Harger, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary