

February 19, 2003

Present: Susan Payne, Chairperson, Joe Gitterman

Alternates: Kelly Boling

Guests: Elaine Luckey, First Selectman

Members are asked to call Susan Payne at home (868-9348) if they are unable to attend a meeting.

Susan Payne Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Kelly Boling was seated as an alternate.

MOTION: Approval of the minutes of the February 5, 2003 meeting of the Washington Conservation Commission, Kelly Boling made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5th meeting, with several grammatical/punctuation changes which have been attached to the Town Clerk's copy of the above mentioned minutes. Joe Gitterman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Susan Payne informed members that she added a line item to the 2003/2004 budget of \$5,000 for possible future expenses for consulting, legal or monitoring fees.

Referrals from other commissions

The Chairperson asked for questions or comments on the memo regarding the "Carmel Hill Development". Kelly Boling asked that the memo reference concerns about the impact of the proposed pond sites on the area. Susan will make this addition to the memo and submit the memo to be forwarded to the Inland/Wetland Commission. The Inland/Wetland Commission will hold a public hearing on this application on March 26th.

How to accept land as the Town of Washington

Ruth Alex was not present to address this issue, but Elaine Luckey had spoken with Ruth. Ruth has been in contact with The Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC), The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) and with Attorney David Miles, but has received little information. There was continued discussion on the handling/management of set-asides and the establishment of a fund for fees-in-lieu. Susan Payne referenced a memo from George Bender to Elaine Luckey about enacting an ordinance allowing the Conservation Commission to be the recipient of future open space set-a-sides. All members will receive copies of this correspondence. This matter will remain on the agenda for the March 5th meeting.

Land Management Discussion

Report from the 2/18/03 TPOCD meeting

Susan Payne reported that topics of discussion were gateways to the villages, streetscape and traffic issues. Susan reminded members that there is a Workbook located in the Land Use office with current information about the ongoing work on the 2003 Town Plan of Conservation and Development (TPOCD). The next Planning Commission special meeting to work on the TPOCD is March 18th.

Subcommittee Reports:

Canoe Brook - Elaine Luckey stated that Dirk Sabin will be meeting with an engineer about the erosion issue in Canoe Brook.

Cell Tower Update - Susan Payne read from a memo Phil Markert submitted about information on health issues relating to cell towers. Pam Osborne will send copies to all members. Diane Dupree has given Susan Payne a list of websites on this subject; if any members are interested please contact Susan. Discussion on the proposed AT&T New Preston cell tower and possible alternative sites ensued. Members received a memo from Janet Hill, Zoning Enforcement Officer about the balloon test at the proposed cell tower site on Rabbit Hill Road in Warren on February 24th.

Data Management - Kelly Boling will draft a memo to the other land use commissions about interest in this subcommittee, which Susan will address at the Commission Chairs meeting on February 25th. Ms. Payne gave the OK for the Natural Resource Inventory Report to be made available on CD at a cost of \$25.00. Kelly Boling offered to burn the CDs; the commission will start with ten copies.

Flora/Fauna - no report

Greenway - no report

New-appoint committee to create Land use Info/Welcome Pamphlet - Kelly Boling has offered to represent the Conservation Commission.

Scenic Roads - Joe Gitterman submitted the most recent #4 draft of the proposed Scenic Road Ordinance. Copies will be given to all members and there will be discussion on the ordinance at the March 19th meeting of the Conservation Commission. Joe will invite his subcommittee to the March 19th meeting. Joe took this opportunity to thank his subcommittee members for all of their hard work. Ms. Payne also thanked Joe for all that he had done.

Water Resources - Kirby Brook evaluation - no report

Other Business - none

Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.

Next scheduled meeting of the Washington Conservation Commission is March 5, 2003 at 5:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela L. Osborne, Secretary