

# April 4, 2007

**Present:** Susan Payne, Kelly Boling, Linda Frank

**Alternates:** Diane Dupuis

Chairperson, Susan Payne called the meeting to order at 5:00pm seating Diane Dupuis as an alternate.

**Motion: Linda Frank made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 7, 2007 meeting of the Washington Conservation Commission as submitted, Kelly Boling seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Susan Payne stated that the Washington Environmental Council's Earth Day Celebration will be on April 22nd. Betsy Corrigan will be leading an invasive species walk at noon and the Greenway Committee will be doing trail clean up.

Ms. Payne also stated that the Greenway Committee will be meeting next on May 7th at 4:00pm; they will meet at the New Preston Falls. Susan invited any one interested to join them.

## Referrals

**Young Elliot's Farm LLC, 110 Calhoun Street, 2-lot subdivision;**the Conservation Commission submitted a letter dated March 21, 2007 to the Planning Commission which included recommendations on the conservation easement document, addressing the issue of using wetlands as set-aside and recommendations for alternate set-aside area.

**Mr. & Mrs. Luis Abella, 44 Scofield Road, 3-lot subdivision;**members looked over maps showing the proposed 3-lot subdivision with proposed conservation easement areas, there is an existing house on the property, two new lots are being added (Lot #1 is 5.48 acres, Lot #2 is 5.24 acres and Lot #3 is 8.58 acres). Members maintain their opinion that wetlands should not be included as set-aside because they are already protected. After looking over the maps members were in agreement that a fee-in-lieu of open space be suggested. Members talked about the possible view shed impacts as seen from the hillside up from the East Aspetuck River off of Route 202. Members also discussed the importance of clearly defining the wetland setbacks and sensitivity be taken to tree removal/clear cutting, so as not to create runoff for neighboring properties.

## Subcommittee Reports

**Cell Tower Update: Verizon application for two proposed sites on Route 202:** Diane Dupuis reports that they are waiting to see what action the Board of Selectman will take, they are filing for intervener status. Susan Payne attended the March Zoning Commission meeting, at which the agenda included revisions to the Telecommunications Antennae, Towers and Facilities regulations. At the meeting the Zoning Commission decided to keep the regulations as is for now until the Verizon applications are through. Kelly Boling stated that pursuing Scenic Road designation for the Route 202 corridor should become a top priority. Diane Dupuis felt that the commission should hold off on submitting a letter about the proposed cell towers until the Board of Selectman decides what course of action they will take.

Members went on to discuss State Scenic Road designation for Route 202 and were in agreement that it was very important to move ahead with this plan. Susan Payne will talk to Joe Gitterman and Dan Sherr to locate the State Scenic Road application paperwork. The May Conservation meeting will be devoted to this application's review. The commission will notify the Selectman's office about their pursuit of the

application.

**Management and Monitoring of Town properties:** Linda Frank hopes to include photographs/roadscape shots of the easements to be monitored. Some of the Town owned properties such as the Town Hall grounds etc. have been removed from the monitoring process as they are maintained by the town already. The commission is struggling with having baseline documentation when an easement is acquired. Linda has been reviewing documents from Steep Rock Association about their requirements for baseline documentation.

**Open Space Committee:** will meet on April 12th at 5:00pm.

**Scenic Road:** addressed above

**Flora & Fauna:** no report

**Land Use Data Management:** no activity

**Water Resources:** no report

Susan Payne had the SLAM proposal for a consolidated school off of Route 199 in Roxbury, which she borrowed from the Superintendent's Office. Members looked at maps, drawings and aerial views, they recognized a lot of wetlands and Susan Payne stated that the property was bordered by Weantinoge Land Trust and Roxbury Land Trust property. Susan Payne will be doing a site walk and will let members know when if they were interested in joining her.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

**Next scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission is May 2, 2007 at 5:00pm.**

Submitted Subject to approval,

Pamela L. Osborne, Secretary