

RECV'D: Office of the Town Clerk September 21, 2015

Durham Agricultural Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday February 17, 2015

7:00 pm, 3rd Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall

Present

Members: Melissa Greenbacker , Roger Passavant, Fred Mastele, David Zemelsky, Warren Herzig

Alternates: Joe Pasquale

1. Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm and roll call was taken
2. Motion made by Roger Passavant and seconded by Warren Herzog to accept the February 17, 2015 meeting agenda. Fred noticed a couple of mistakes on the agenda and said he would correct. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Motion was made by Warren Herzig and seconded by Melissa Greenbacker to accept the January 20, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
5. Old Business

Durham Grown Sign

Fred reported that he was trying to find a new contact at the Knights of Columbus in regards to the sign..

Town Owned Properties

Fred reported that he was still waiting to meet with Laura Francis regarding the agricultural use of town owned properties. Roger reported that he and Joe had attended the Conservation Commission Meeting on February 10, 2015. Roger said that Joe had asked the commission who would be maintain the two newly acquired town properties. The commission did not have a definitive answer at this point in time.

Coginchaug River

The commission had a brief discussion regarding the presentation given by the CRCCD representatives at our last meeting. All thought the presentation was excellent. The only concern was raised again in regards to the focus of our two commissions not aligning. Warren wondered if Laura Francis had heard back yet from the State of Connecticut D.E.E.P.

Plan of Conservation and Development

Joe reported that there had been no activity on the towns POCD at this point in time.

Reminders

Fred and Warren reminded the commission members of a number of upcoming events.

- a. Joan Nicols- PA 490 Presentation in Deep River on March 4, 2015-Presentation open to the Public
- b. Soil's seminar at the extension center in Haddam on March 14, 2015. UConn and NRCS representatives to be speaking at the event.

6. New Business

Deerfield Farm

Melynda Naples was in attendance and asked to speak regarding an issue she is having with the water storage tank located on the property.

She gave a brief overview of a contamination issue in her well water. She reported this was the first time she has had a problem with her well. The well water had tested positive for E.coli and Coliform. There are concerns that possibly the contamination had come from the water storage tank located near her well. The water in the tank had also tested positive for E.coli and Coliform.

The tank has reportedly leaked a number of times and has been repaired to correct the situation. One major concern regarding the tank is its proximity to the well housing. It has been reported that the tank is approximately 15 feet from the well housing. It is believed that town code requires the tank to be at least 25 feet from the well, and that state code could be as much as 75 feet.

Melynda reported that she had met with Laura Francis (first selectman), Kurt Bober (Director of Public Works), Bill Milardo (Town Sanitarian) and Rick Huntly (Chairman Conservation Commission). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss options in regards to tank removal and relocation of the well, as it may be prone to be less expensive to move the well rather than moving the tank.

Joe and Roger reported that they had attended the Conservation Commission meeting on February 10, 2015 and stated that the commission had made a motion in regards to the fact that the tank had been installed too close to the well and should be drained immediately and removed/relocated at the earliest possible date.

A motion was made by Roger Passavant and seconded by Melissa Greenbacker. The motion read as follows; based on information presented at the February 17, 2015 Agricultural Commission Meeting, the Ag Commission would like to show full support for the motion made by the Conservation Commission at its February 10, 2015 meeting. Their motion being in regards to the draining, removal or relocation of the water retention tank on the Town of Durham property leased to Deerfield Farm and Melynda Naples. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn

Was made by Warren Herzig and was seconded by Melissa Greenbacker. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.