

Windsor Conservation Commission Minutes
Windsor Town Hall, Rose Room
September 25, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 7:35

Present: D. Davis, F. Davis, Harvey, Knickerbocker,
Rogovich, Yeich
Minutes approved.

New Business

Open Space & Agricultural Preservation Plan

The chairman met with the town planner, Eric Barz and environmentalist, Cyd Groff to discuss open space preservation. Criteria were developed for future acquisitions. Eric again reiterated the need to develop strategies to acquire available open space.

Frank referenced the revised and updated Plan of Conservation and Development as presented to the Town Council by Eric Barz. He praised Eric's presentation and highlighted specific areas and additions to the plan that included the Windsor Conservation Commission and Windsor Land Trust. Frank reported on the support from town council members. The revised edition of the plan is now in the hands of the TPZ for perusal and eventual approval. They have 65 days in which to review the plan - this may lead to a public meeting. A council member proposed adding \$400,000 to the open space fund. Councilman Jepsen indicated to Frank that he would propose an increase to \$500,000 at the next town council meeting. There is presently a \$90,000 account balance. Fines for wetland violations are also added to the open space coffers.

Windsor Land Trust

Blaise reported that the committee is working on four individual properties - either easements, or donations, or development rights or a combination thereof. However, each property comes with ownership issues which extend the process. Have joined the Land Trust Alliance which will lend assistance and can acquire insurance through. Membership drive in the works. Fiscal year runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Soliciting professional volunteer services - i.e. attorney, surveyors, etc.

Wild and Scenic Study Update

Consists of two representatives from each of the 10 Upper Farmington River towns. Goal is to study the area to proclaim it as a Wild and Scenic designation. Criteria is three-pronged: investigate eligibility, examine sustainability, and develop a Management Plan.

Round Table

- Frank will be a presence at the Northwest Park Country Fair
- Knickerbocker will speak with Loomis representative regarding the river trail access.

- David talked about his Monarch butterfly habitat and vernal pool successes.
 - Meg requested that we further develop the open space map specifying property features and utilizing that information as part of an outreach program. It was also her thought that the CC should be informed when a change in zoning from agricultural to residential is requested.
 - Blaise queried as to what the CC should do to be included in that process. Frank will inquire.
 - Colette proposed that we redo the map work that was lost on computer several years ago. Each member volunteer to take a portion of town, explore the area, and assign a land classification. This will help in developing a land acquisition plan.
- Next meeting will be a map workshop
Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.