

TOWN OF GRANBY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2012

PRESENT: Neil Hornish, Mark Lockwood, Mark Fiorentino, and Carolyn Flint

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Chairman Hornish.

JANUARY 19, 2012 MINUTES:

The minutes from the January 19, 2012 meeting were reviewed by the Commission.

Chairman Hornish clarified that the discussion regarding development proposals documented in the New Business section of the January 19th minutes is only applicable to FRED permits according to Town Statute 8.20.5. When a FRED application is submitted to the Planning and Zoning Department & Commission, a copy should also be submitted to the Conservation Commission for review. The Commission then has forty-five days to review the proposal.

ON A MOTION by Ms. Flint, seconded by Mr. Fiorentino, the minutes from the January 19, 2012 Conservation Commission meeting were approved as amended on a (3-0-1) vote. Mr. Lockwood abstained from voting as he was not present at the January 19, 2012 meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY (NRI):

Mr. Fiorentino submitted his comments and revisions of the NRI to Chairman Hornish for incorporation. Mr. Lockwood suggested the Commission state in the NRI that it is intended to be a reference document and the recommendations made within the NRI are suggestions on ways to preserve and protect our resource inventory. Mr. Lockwood will provide other comments and revisions to Chairman Hornish before the next meeting.

Ms. Flint suggested that perhaps a summary of each section be drafted for those readers who would like to peruse the document as opposed to reading it in its entirety.

Chairman Hornish spoke with Mr. Paula Johnson, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission about the NRI. Chairman Johnson commented that she has spoken with Fran Armentano, Director of Community Development, and agrees with the feedback he has given thus far on the NRI. She will continue to review the NRI and submit additional comments if she has them. Beginning in February, Chairman Hornish will send a reminder to those who are reviewing the draft NRI to send their comments to the Commission.

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE:

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Chairman Hornish contacted former Commissioner Shelley Reuben and obtained information about the Portfolio Manager. He plans to also contact Bob Wall of the DEEP for resources on how to utilize the website as Ms. Reuben did not remember how to fully use the program. Ms. Reuben is compiling all of her paperwork on the Clean Energy Task Force and related projects which she will submit to the Commission.

Kurt Severance of the Granby Department of Public Works will be meeting with Chairman Hornish on February 9, 2012 to discuss the Town's oil and water usage. This data will then be entered into Portfolio Manager.

As part of the grant the Commission received in 2011, periodic reports should be submitted to the DEEP on how the money is being used. Chairman Hornish will contact the Town Manager's office to see what information should be included in these reports.

UPCOMING COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Mr. Fiorentino met with Mr. Armentano regarding mapping the hiking trails in Granby. Mr. Armentano is willing to help with the project and determined the most efficient way to digitize the trails would be to plot them on a map and he would enter them into the Town's GIS database. The Commission can also add photos or descriptions to sections of trails which can be included into the GIS map. UCONN students would most likely be interested in participating in this project. Mr. Lockwood will start plotting the data on a map and have the Commission review it when complete.

Mr. Lockwood suggested the Commission consider encouraging road shoulders be created when roads are being re-paved or built in Town. Road shoulders would benefit cyclists and pedestrians as Granby currently does not have designated lanes for them on Town and State roads. Encouraging the development of road shoulders would also encourage residents to bike to a commuter lot and then take the bus to work.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Planning and Zoning Commission is still reviewing the Ridgeline Guidelines.

ON A MOTION by Mark Lockwood, seconded by Mark Fiorentino, the meeting adjourned at 8:14pm on a (4-0-0) vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Leveille
Recording Secretary