

**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M. MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2008  
ROOM 222 CROMWELL TOWN HALL  
41 WEST STREET**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Laurene McEntire called the meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

**2. Roll Call and Seating of Alternates**

Present: Laurene McEntire, Lu Landis, Craig Minor and alternate Joseph Corlis

Absent: Anthony Varricchio, Jr., Ernest Pandolfe and Richard Newton

**3. Approval of Agenda**

A **motion** was made by Lu Landis, **seconded** by Joseph Corlis and it was *unanimously* approved to approve the agenda. *Motion passed.*

**4. Town Planner Report**

a. Pending P&Z and IWWA Applications:

1. Status of Ice Skating Pond at Evergreen Hill Park on Willow Brook Road: The application has been withdrawn at this time.
2. Status of Passive Park at 204 Main Street: The application is still pending approval by the Inland Wetland Agency because of concerns of contaminated soil. The Inland Wetland Agency tabled this until further report from the Town Public Works staff person. The application still has to go to Planning and Zoning and there are also issues concerning the entrance.
3. Status of North Woods Conservation Subdivision on North Road: The application is still pending approval by the Inland Wetland Agency but they are inclined to be favorable to the project and will be continuing discussion at their next meeting. Attorney Salvatore Petrella, representing Nadeau Brothers, was in attendance tonight and spoke to the Conservation Commission members on the issue. He told the members that he feels that this is one of the nicest development projects to come forward to Cromwell. The development faces the Mattabassett River and offers a rare opportunity for the Town to have public walking trails on the site. The development plan will also be different having sequential development and only excavating areas that are being developed at the time, having the look of the site nice from the onset. The Commission members thanked Attorney Petrella for his presentation.

b. “Biodiversity Conservation” Report

Craig Minor said that the new Intern started two weeks ago and would give him a copy of the Biodiversity Conservation report to make recommendations for Cromwell and to also to incorporate the Report into his work for the Town.

**5. Old Business**

a. Report on “Evergreen Hill Park”:  
Tabled.

b. Report on “Cromwell Hills” detention pond dredging project:

Mr. Corlis said that the proposals are on hold pending the recovery of a member of the Landscaping Committee

c. Conservation Easement Management:

Craig Minor made the revisions to the manual as requested and presented them to the members as well as submitting section four and the members were satisfied. Mr. Minor said he would submit section five at next months meeting. Mr. Minor told the members that the manual is a “work in progress” and would like the members to go over it again before it is finalized.

d. Open Space Plan:

1. “Options for Implementing the Plan”

Mr. Minor submitted to the commission members the changes he made to the document that Laurene McEntire gave him last month. The members then discussed the plan (Options to Acquire Open Space) and made some additional changes for Mr. Minor to make and submit for next months meeting. The members were in agreement that the document would be finished after the changes requested are made by Craig Minor.

2. Recommendations

Laurene McEntire asked if the “Goals” section of the OSP would be the same as “Recommendations” and Craig Minor said yes. Laurene McEntire said that there still needs to be follow-up on the Trail System section and it still needs some additions. Different trails were discussed and identified as being listed in the Trail System section. Craig Minor said he would check with the Cromwell Fire District-Water Division for trails on property they own. Also, he told the members they should establish minimum easement requirements to use as a recommendation in the Trail System chapter.

**6. New Business**

None

**7. Communications**

Laurene McEntire presented information for a Mattabassett Workshop being held Monday, March 17, 2008 at the Berlin Town Hall. Lu Landis and Laurene McEntire will attend the 7:00-8:30pm session and Joseph Corlis will attend the 3:00-4:30 session. Lu Landis asked if there was a response to the letter sent by the Conservation Commission inviting First Selectmen Jeremy Shingleton to attend a Conservation Commission meeting. Laurene McEntire responded “no”.

**8. Commissioners Comments**

Joseph Corlis commented that he attended a “Storm Water Runoff “ conference held on February 25, 2008 at the Rocky Hill Town Hall. The speaker was John Rozum and some of the topics were “Smart Growth” and “Use of Swale”. Mr. Corlis said that he found the conference very informative.

**9. Public Comments**

Steven Bayley – 22 Chestnut Court

Mr. Bayley asked the Commission to make a *Motion* to ask First Selectmen Shingleton to attend their meetings as part of each months meeting and to record it in the minutes. Also, Mr. Bayley would like Joseph Corlis to ask the Inland Wetlands Agency to not hold up progress on the Passive Park at 204 Main Street. Soil testing should not hold it up and bonding was passed for funding the project.

**10. Approval of Minutes:**

a. February 11, 2008

A **motion** was made by Laurene McEntire, **seconded** by Joseph Corlis and it was approved to approve the minutes as written of February 11, 2008. *Motion passed.*

**11. Adjourn:**

Chairman Laurene McEntire adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Janik  
Clerk