

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL MEETING
7:00 P.M. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008
ROOM 222 CROMWELL TOWN HALL
41 WEST STREET**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairman Laurene McEntire called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Seating of Alternates

Present: Laurene McEntire, Lu Landis, Scott Lamberson, Anthony Varricchio Jr. and Joseph Corlis.

Also Present: Town Planner Craig Minor and Selectmen Richard Newton

Absent: Ernest Pandolfe

A **motion** was made by Laurene McEntire, **seconded** by Lu Landis to seat Joseph Corlis as an alternate. All were in favor. *Motion Passed.*

3. Approval of Agenda

A **motion** was made by Joseph Corlis, **seconded** by Scott Lamberson to approve the agenda. All were in favor. *Motion passed.*

4. Town Planner Report

a. Status of Pending and Approved P&Z and IWWA Applications:

1. P&Z Application #08-45: "North Woods Estates" Conservation Subdivision at 123 and 141 North Road. Norman and Kenneth Nadeau, owner/applicant: The Board of Selectmen voted to accept the open space at the September Board of Selectmen meeting.

2. IWA Application #08-06: Conventional Subdivision at 48 Pasco Hill Road. J Dorio Builders and Realty Inc., applicant Estate of Robert Rioux, Owner: The revised subdivision plan showing only four lots and no cul-de-sac was approved by the Inland Wetland Agency and is now with Planning and Zoning commission. It was requested by the Inland Wetlands Agency that the Conservation Commission make a recommendation to Planning and Zoning regarding the open space.

A **motion** was made by Laurene McEntire, **seconded** by Lu Landis to recommend that the Planning and Zoning commission ask for a cash fee in lieu of the open space to be deposited into the Town's open space fund. All were in favor. *Motion Passed.*

3. Conservation Subdivision at 100 North Road and Ledge Road. Reed Builders LLC, Owner/applicant: The Planning and Zoning Commission approved the layout, with the condition that the applicants come up with a way to let deer pass through. Next, the application will go to the Inland Wetlands Agency and then back to Planning and Zoning for final approval.

5. **Old Business**

- a. Report on "Evergreen Hill Park":

Anthony Varricchio Jr. reported that he sent an e-mail to First Selectmen Jeremy Shingleton and was told that the park was under the Park and Recreation Department. Selectmen Richard Newton said it was his understanding that it is under Park and Recreation and will find out more information. Mr. Varricchio was concerned about the condition of the parking lot along with other issues and that the park had not been mowed. Craig Minor recommended that an e-mail be sent to Public Works Director Eric Hood on his concerns and to "cc" him on the e-mail.

- b. Report on "Cromwell Hills" detention pond dredging project:

Joseph Corlis reported that the Landscape Committee is waiting for Wendy Goodfriend to return from California. The Landscape Committee will be meeting in October to discuss plantings around the pond for next spring.

- c. Conservation Easement Management:

Craig Minor submitted the final draft to the commission members stating that if they accept the draft the next step is to submit the manual to the Board of Selectmen for their approval. Discussion took place. One typographical correction is to be made on page 7.

A **motion** was made by Anthony Varricchio Jr., **Seconded** by Joseph Corlis to accept the adjusted Conservation Easement Management Manual. All were in favor. *Motion Passed.*

- d. Open Space Plan:

No additional material or information had been submitted on the cemeteries. Richard Newton said that the Cemetery Management Committee is active and can possibly provide some information. Craig Minor said he would contact the chairperson on the committee. Mr. Minor also provided a listing of farms in Cromwell. Laurene McEntire asked that they be listed in the Open Space Plan inventory. Craig Minor said he would go through the Open Space Plan and add any farm not listed as "protected open space".

e. Northeast Utilities “Environmental Community Grant Program”

Discussion took place on ideas for the grant and it was decided that an educational brochure showing passive and active trails would be a good project. Scott Lamberson volunteered to get the information to create the brochures and fill out the grant application. Mr. Lamberson will send the information to the members in advance for next meeting.

f. Cromwell Farmland Preservation Program

The Department of Economic and Community Development approved Cromwell’s STEAP grant for the Cromwell Business Park with the condition that the Cromwell Conservation Commission be designated as the local “Farmland Preservation Review Committee”

A **motion** was made by Laurene McEntire, **seconded** by Lu Landis to move to take the motion off the table from the August 11, 2008 meeting. All were in favor. *Motion Passed.*

A **motion** was made by Lu Landis, **seconded** by Laurene McEntire to recommend the Conservation Commission not to take on this task. There was no discussion. All were in favor. *Motion Passed.*

6. **New Business**

- a. The “CACIWC” conference is scheduled for November 11, 2008. The conference was discussed and the members spoke their interest in attending. Laurene McEntire and Scott Lamberson were appointed to attend.
- b. The meeting date for the October 20, 2008 Conservation Commission Regular Meeting has been changed to a “Special Meeting” on October 6, 2008.

7. **Communications**

A grant application for the Rockfall Grant was presented to the members. The deadline for the grant is November 10, 2008. Lu Landis asked for copies of the grant to be sent to the members in the next agenda packet for review for next months meeting.

8. **Commissioners Comments**

None

9. **Public Comments**

None

10. **Approval of Minutes:**

a. August 11, 2008

Correction on page 3, Item 5f. It should read:

The Record of Decision for the Cromwell Business Park contains the condition that Cromwell develop a Farmland Preservation Review Committee and that the Conservation Commission would be charged to head this task. Lu Landis commented that this is a very large task for the commission to undertake.

A **motion** was made by Anthony Varricchio Jr., **seconded** by Joseph Corlis to approve the minutes as amended of August 11, 2008. *Motion passed.*

11. **Adjourn:**

Chairman Laurene McEntire adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Janik
Clerk

09/29/08