

Falmouth Conservation Commission **Minutes of November 3, 2008**

Meeting convened at 7:05 PM

Members Present: Lissa Robinson, Chair, Caleb Hemphill, Mel Dickenson, Sean Mahoney

Members Absent: Frank Ruch,

Liaisons: Lissa Robinson (CPAC), Caleb Hemphill (FTAC, FLT)

Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of October 2008 were approved without changes

Leadership/Membership

Recognized that membership of FCC was down to five from a full complement of seven. Decided to focus on membership at this time.

Potential projects for 2009

- Yardscape
- Coastal Erosion
- Liaison with Planning Board
- Town Lighting
- Tree Conservation for Town

A program of workshops/public presentations was proposed for each of the potential projects except Liaison with Planning Board.

Subcommittee Discussions and Reports

Open Space – Mel Dickenson

- Green Expo was a success as approx. 150 attended on Oct. 22 at High School
- Ombudsman role has gotten complicated due to a local realtor raising the question of whether he needs a real estate broker license to be involved in land transactions. The answer to that question is unclear legally. Given that ambiguity, the town manager wants to be sure he doesn't do things that may be construed as broker activities. He and the town manager are trying to figure a work around. One solution may be to use the brokers on the committee to make initial contacts with landowners and do other tasks that may fall in that domain. The other would be to become a town employee. The third would be to get the law clarified to exempt people acting on behalf of municipalities and land trusts from the requirement to have a broker license.
- The LMF properties are moving forward. All five purchase and sale agreements have been signed; now we are dealing with appraisals and easements.
- The archeological dig on one of our open space properties (River Point) started this week. About a dozen people will be volunteering at the dig.

Vernal Pools – Caleb Hemphill

Ongoing

Natural Resource Ordinances Review – Lissa Robinson

Integrating shoreland zoning to natural resources review. Should be completed early in spring 2009

Liaison Discussions and Reports

None this month

Next Steps

- Lissa will present a Draft Action plan for 2009 based on tonight's discussion.
- The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Monday, December 1, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Submitted by Mel Dickenson