

Town of Stonington Conservation Commission

Minutes of a Special Meeting held on May 27, 2008  
808 Stonington Road, Stonington, CT

**1. Call to order:** Called to order by Chairman Simm at 6:18 p.m. Commission members also in attendance were Lyons, Bell, and Herbst. Baldwin arrived late. Swenarton, and Dewire were absent. Town Planner Brynes and First Selectman Haberek were present. Members of the public included Dora Hill, Charles Storrow and Coleman Ives.

**2. Review of Town Developments and Proposals:**

**2a. PZ0812ZC & CAM Edward & Andrea Besky** - *Zoning Map Amendment from Residential RC-120 to Residential RM-20, and a Coastal Area Management Review for property located at 83 Noyes Ave., Stonington, CT. Assessor's Map 129 Block 9 Lot 3. Zones RC-120 & RM-20.* MOTION: Once again the Conservation Commission recommends that this application be approved. We request that the latest application fee be refunded to Edward Besky (Bell, Herbst). Passed unanimously.

**2b.** *Any pending applications and new preliminary proposals.* None.

MOTION: Move to item 5a in New Business (Lyons, Bell). Passed unanimously.

**5a.** *Discussion of HI-60 Zoning Regulations.* The Conservation Commission wants to review HI-60 zone buffers and setbacks. Conservation Commission wants to begin process to request change to revert to M-1 buffers and setbacks adjacent to residential areas. Brynes to develop a list of properties affected by this change.

**5b.** *Discussion of Alternative Energy Regulations and Public Information and Participation.* Two companies, including SolarWrights, have been tasked to write regulations for establishing wind turbines. Stonington is in the process of developing a Clean Energy goal by 2010; the goal for the town is 20% clean energy.

Baldwin arrived.

**4d.** *Discussion of Future Land Preservation Forum at Stoneridge.* Residents have an idea to educate other residents and recruit an audience. New date of June 30th or July 1st was discussed.

**3. Open Space Subcommittee**

**3a.** *Discussion on parcels for preservation in Pawcatuck – Ben.* Herbst said that she had not heard from Mr. Mularski of Skirig re: his 23-acre property off Johnson Street in Pawcatuck. Dora Hill said that Mr. Verzillo had begun development of his Burdick Lane properties. Discussions are underway for CT Department of Agriculture acquisition of development rights from the 175-acre Pequot Plant Farm on Wheeler Road, possibly with Stonington Land Trust involvement.

Lyons departed.

**Old Business**

**4a.** *Mystic River Dam Committee.* Bell to investigate

**4b.** *Discussion of Stonington's 200 Greatest Roadside Trees.* Garden Club is busy at present; Baldwin awaiting response to letter re: Pawcatuck Streetscape plans to remove memorial trees.

**4c.** *Discussion of Anguilla Brook Preserve Transfer.* Board of Selectmen meeting next week. Sign needs to be posted on property.

**4e.** *Discussion of Waivers In Land Use Regulations.* Not discussed.

**4f.** *Discussion of Commission Honors Award.* Not discussed.

**4g.** *Discussion of Terra Firma Farm.* Bell said that Alice Houston, a current or former CT Landmarks board member and Stonington resident, says that Executive Director Hack says that TFF has not kept in touch. TFF will not be liable for future property taxes. TFF has a grant to improve the fields.

**4h.** *Discussion of Updates to Plan of Conservation and Development.* Not discussed; no change.

Brynes departed

**4i.** *Discussion of FY07-08 Budget and Expenditures*

**2007-2008 Budget Expenditures:**

Naturescapes - Barn Island and Spellman Park Field Trips	\$1,950.00
Naturescapes - Equipment such as dip nets	\$200.00
First Student Buses for Field Trips	\$765.60
Avalonia Land Conservancy	\$150.00
CACIWC	\$70.00
Stonington Land Trust	\$500.00
Terra Firma Farm	\$250.00
Miscellaneous copies and printing	\$30.74
Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association	\$100.00
Total expended	\$4,016.34
Total adopted budget amount	\$4,501.00
Amount of turned back to town	\$484.66

MOTION: Expenditures approved (Herbst, Bell). Passed unanimously.

**6.** *Review of April 28, 2008 meeting minutes* - Motion to accept as modified (Bell, Herbst). Passed unanimously.

**7.** *Adjournment* - Motion to adjourn (Bell). Approved at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Ben Baldwin, Secretary, with assistance by Jennifer Herbst. Approved as modified at a special meeting on June 30, 2008.