

Town of Veazie Planning Board

Meeting Minutes

3 May 2011

Call to Order : 7:01 PM

Present : Board members C. Cronan (Chair), S. Malis-Andersen and J. Manter (recorder of minutes); D. Wardrop (Town Forester), J. Eckert (District Forester), D. MacKay (Chm., Conservation Commission) (these last three left at 8:09 PM); and Tom Russell (Town Attorney).

Minutes : 5 April 2011

Motion to approve: S. Malis-Andersen; seconded: J. Manter; voted 2 – 0 (1 abstained – J. Manter: not present at that meeting).

Timber Harvesting Ordinance

Jim Eckert, District Forester, answered questions and discussed the following with the Board:

- 1) Purpose of Ordinance.
 - Chm. Cronan and Tw. For. Wardrop explained background;
 - Purpose – deal with high-grading of wood lots.
- 2) High-grading unenforceable
 - Discussion: quality of stump not indication of stem;
 - Tw. For. Wardrop noted baseline for before-and-after harvest provided in amendment.
- 3) Recommendation: “Management Plan” amended to read: “Harvest Plan”.
 - expense of management vs. harvesting plans
 - S. Malis-Andersen – 60% volume removal each 5 years?
 - Not economically viable – quality of trees drive harvest, not volume;
 - Volume controls maintain water quality in Shore Land Zoning;
 - ----- “ ----- detrimental for Town-wide forest management;
 - Current Draft : requirements as forest harvesting plan – suitable.
- 4) District Forester role as 2nd opinion on Harvesting Plan? J. Eckert will look into this question and report back to Chairman.
- 5) Comprehensive Plan issues vs. Land Use Ordinance.
 - Harvest area – size;
 - “ intervals;
 - Checks and balances;
 - Role of Forest in the Community.
- 6) Harvest Plan requirements – forester’s responsibility.
 - Significant wildlife habitat is mapped in Veazie;
 - Diverse habitat in Town by nature;
 - Species change as habitat changes;
 - expectation of land owner: check for known occurrences.

Timber Harvesting Ordinance (cont.'d)

Town Attorney notes –

- Comprehensive Plan can support anything;
- Need land conservation goals;
- “purpose” – not a standard.

Sustainability –

- several agencies – different certification;
- acceptable list of standards?

Resolved: Conclude Harvesting Ordinance issue at next meeting with more Planning Board members present.

Open Space Requirements

Revised draft of proposed open space requirements for the Land Use Ordinance reviewed,

Issues and Discussion:

- Portion of site area vs. net residential acreage;
- Public access requirement vs. residential allowance;
- Net residential acreage vs. total site;
- Flexibility in cluster subdivisions.

Review of New Open Space Section – discussed w/ Town Attorney-

- Comprehensive Plan – reference to Sec. III-L, pg. 98;
- Public access issues
- Options for open space ownership;
- Restrictive Covenants moved to legal section;
- Definitions – Fresh Water Wetlands – use State Statutes;
- 3d Party Right of Enforcement – w/ compensation from home owners.

Next Meeting: June 7th, Tuesday.

Adjourned : 8:54 PM.

Minutes approved – 12 June meeting; moved: S. Malis-Andersen; seconded: J. Manter; voted: 3 – 0 (K. Tableman & K. Carr abstained, being absent from that meeting).

Respectfully submitted,

J. Manter

*moved to accept: S. Malis-Andersen; seconded: J. Manter
voted at 12 July meeting 3-1 (K. Tableman & K. Carr not present)*