

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Mr. Gerber, Acting Chair at 7:09 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**PRESENT:** Gerber, Allen, Hamin, Kaplan (arrived at 7:16 p.m.), Stein

**ABSENT:** Baker

**STAFF:** Ciccarello

**OTHERS:** Larry Murphy, Alice Epstein, Seymour Epstein, Ward Smith, Chuck Dauchy, Peter Wells

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S ACTION**

**Approve Minutes**

**VOTED** unanimously (4-0), to approve the Conservation Commission minutes of August 27, 2008.

**Heritage Landscape Inventory Program**

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0) to endorse the Heritage Landscape Inventory Program grant application.

**CDM regarding the Atkins Corner road improvement project**

Larry Murphy gave a brief presentation to the Commission of where they currently are in the design process in dealing with the wetland issues. Hampshire College will be appearing before the Commission at a later date.

**PERMITS/CERTIFICATES**

**Notice of Intent (Cont'd from 3/26/08) – Andrews and LaVerdiere for construction of an office building at Meadow Street, Amherst (Map 4D, Lot 3).**

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0), to continue the public hearing to November 12, 2008 at 7:30 PM.

**RE-OPEN - Notice of Intent (continued from 6/11/08) – Paul Cole for development of an 8 lot 11-unit cluster subdivision located at 1194 West Street (Map #25B, Parcel 29).**

- Opened the public hearing at 7:38 p.m.

Alice and Seymour Epstein, Ward Smith, and Peter Wells were in attendance. The Conservation Commission brought up questions they had regarding the content of the letter submitted by the Epsteins and Valley Environmental regarding re-development.

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0), to continue the public hearing to October 22, 2008 at 7:40 PM.

**Request for Determination – Kathryn Perry for placement of a shed and attachment to an existing shed in the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland located at 24 Stanley Street (Map 18A, Parcel 92).**

- Opened the public meeting at 9:33 p.m.
- Closed the public meeting at 9:40 p.m.

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0), to move hearing this request until after hearing the 7:45 item on the agenda.

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0), to close the public meeting and to issue a negative determination for the work.

**Request for Determination – Roger Webb – request for agricultural exemption for management of existing hayfield located at rear of 291, 293 and 323 Potwine Lane [Map 23A, Parcel 35 (part), 36 & 37 (part)].**

- Opened the public hearing at 8:30 p.m.
- Closed the public hearing at 9:30 p.m.

Chuck Dauchy presented for the applicant – noting that the area has been mown for hay until 2005 and hayed again this week (9/24/2008). He further noted that agreements have been signed by the farmer and all 3 land owners. It was further noted that there is a problem with pond drainage and the outlet, on abutting property, will need some repair to the drain.

**VOTED** (4-0-1), Gerber, Allen, Kaplan and Stein voted “Aye” and Hamin abstained to close the public meeting and to issue a negative determination, under an Agricultural Exemption, for the work.

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0) to issue an Enforcement Order requiring mitigation for the breached drainage pipe.

**Emergency Permit – Fearing Street**

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0) to ratify the Emergency Permit issued for Fearing Street.

**Emergency Permit – Mill Lane**

**VOTED** unanimously (5-0) to ratify the Emergency Permit issued for Mill Lane.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**New Conservation Commission Member**

Elisabeth Hamin was welcomed to the Commission. Ms. Hamin explained a bit about her background. She teaches regional planning and land use at the University of Massachusetts.

**Hitchcock Center Green Building Proposal**

John Gerber met with Julie Johnson on behalf of the Conservation Commission to review their proposal and to determine what they need of the Conservation Commission. There are some regulatory issues that will come up regarding wetland issues. They are looking to develop a relationship with the

Conservation Commission because the land falls under the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction. They will be asking the Conservation Commission to support them in their endeavor, especially with advocating on their behalf with the Select Board, Town Manager and Town Meeting. John asked that Elisabeth monitor this project on behalf of the Conservation Commission.

**Conflict of Interest**

Mr. Gerber spoke briefly about the Conflict of Interest meeting that was held, and suggested that if Ms. Hamin has any questions to call the State Ethics Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**VOTED** unanimously to adjourn the open meeting at 9:40 p.m.