

Town of Greenfield Environmental Commission
Meeting 19 March 2015 at Greenfield Town Hall was called to order at 7:01 PM.

Minutes approved 9Apr 2015

Attending: Ken Blom, Chair; Nancy Kmen, Dan McIntyre, Vince Walsh, (members) Linda Beauregard, Kathy Bozony, Charlie Dake, Rosemary Jenses, Andrew Starace, Stephen Smero (guests)

Minutes: Minutes from the February meeting were approved and sent to the town clerk.

Contact Reports:

Town Board Feb 12:

- (1) Resignation of Lavern Utter from EC (1991-2015). Resolution of Honor was passed.
- (2) Openings posted for Town Council (one member) and EC (two members).
- (3) Belle Estates (Cornell) discussion of the application deadline for easements. TB accepts proposed easements, contingent on ZB agreement.
- (4) Old Stone Ridge (Witt) request for the Town to take over snow plowing. TB decides that all road construction should be completed first.
- (5) Bockes Rd: (Barsalow) Asked about permission for a larger Lou's Welding sign at end of road. He was directed to the Code Enforcement officer.

ZBA Mar 3:

- (1) S. Greenfield Rd.: (Cornell) was granted an extension on the 1.26 Ac area variance for property at 14 S. Greenfield Rd. Building was not begun last year.
- (2) Liberty Drive (Harris) Request for variance to allow in-law apartment to be occupied as part of property sale. A public hearing at 7:39 brought a neighbor concerned that the character of the neighborhood would change and property values would fall. ZB discussed the variance needed for 1.6-Ac property, precedent setting, salability of the property as it is, impact on the neighborhood. ZBA tables the application. EC will send a memo to ZBA reminding them that increasing the population density above the Town Code could put our shared ground water at risk. The possible need for a greater septic system to protect the drinking water of the neighborhood sounds logical to us.

Planning Board Feb 24: Old Stone Ridge (Witt) Discussion of the plan for reforesting cleared land: Tree species, numbers, charts, staking, watering, replanting those that die, bonding for cost, inspection of results, and cleared area around the old Benton house.

- (a) Discussion included the need for a final development map with definitions of terms included on the legend.
- (b) Public hearing resumes at 7:38. A neighbor states preference for the CCE to be more active in decision-making.
- (4) Witt requests a conditional approval to allow him to proceed with building. He is directed to the Code enforcement officer.

Mar 10: (1) Daniels Rd. (Sondhof) PB granted a 6-month extension for the site plan to build a small equine hospital.

(2) Griffin Rd. (Aven) Requested a special use permit to construct a motocross practice track. The PB and applicant discussed: Camping on the site, wetlands, parking and property lines,

storm water handling, making a scale drawing, noise, number of people and motorcycles expected. The applicant has history with two previous tracks in Ft. Ann and Ft. Edward, both now closed. PB suggested the applicant study previous applications on file at the Town Hall to learn what the application process entails. Discussion included recollections of Glad Raggs situation, which was apparently never concluded.

Correspondence

- (1) Rec'd application materials from Linda Beauregard, Kathy Bozony, and Rosemary Jensen from Paul Lunde and had a phone conversation with Charlie Dake about EC membership. All were invited to attend the meeting.
- (2) Rec'd email invitation to Code Revision Committee meeting on Mar 25 from 7:00-9PM at Town Hall. Nancy and Vince intend to participate.
- (3) Rec'd request to attend meeting from two local students, Andrew Starace and Stephen Smero.

Town Parks Theresa sent a message suggesting an early clean-up and assessment of needs at the Porter Corners Nature Trail. We hope to make specific plans at the April meeting.

Adopt-a-Roadside No Report

New business:

- (1) Long-term planning on topics for potential community projects:
 - (a) Roadside vegetation- Shared <pollinators.org> website as a resource for members.
 - (b) The Environmental Action Survey (Dec 2014) early returns (N=12). A map of animal species reported by residents is being developed for the Town Website. Several members brought completed surveys. Vince has permission to distribute surveys with the Historic Society's newsletter.
 - (c) Members volunteered to participate in Vince's 5.2 mi. roadside clean-up in the spring.
- (2) Recognition of Lavern Utter, retired, member of EC from 1991-2015, was discussed.
- (3) Four candidates for membership described their individual interests and abilities. The need for EC presence at other Township meetings was discussed. Recommendations for membership will be made to Town Board.
- (4) April meeting options are: Apr 2, Apr 9, or Apr 30. April 9 was decided.

Next Meeting 9 April 2015

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 PM