

Town of Greenfield Environmental Commission
Meeting 19 November 2015

Minutes approved Dec 17
at Greenfield Town Hall was called to order at 7:03 PM.

Attending: Linda Beauregard, Ken Blom, Chair; Kathy Bozony, Charlie Dake, Dan McIntyre, Vince Walsh

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

Contact Reports:

Town Board :Nov 12 (Linda)

- (1) Middle Grove Rd (Ballestero) Discussion about clearing the auto junkyard with a series of 6-month permits and a 4-year deadline. Reports from DEC will be shared with TB.
- (2) Clinton St. (Skidmore neighbors) Discussion of traffic safety on Clinton St., large gatherings in a barn on Daniels Rd., and late night parking along both sides of Bloomfield Rd. and Daniels Rd. The Town will pave shoulders of Clinton St. this month. Planning will continue with Skidmore College.
- (3) EC Environmental Action Survey report presented data collected, conclusions made, and actions planned: tick avoidance suggestions, reduced mowing proposal, and other resident suggestions like reduced road salt.

ZBA Nov 3:

Wing Rd (Pethick) Application for area variance to combine two mobile home lots and install one double-wide. Public hearing brought positive response. The application was approved.

Planning Board Oct 27:

- (1) Locust Grove Rd (Podhajecki) Application for a Special Use Permit to open a bed-and-breakfast with horse barn and stalls. Discussion followed about lighting, traffic, sewage, manure disposal. A public hearing is scheduled for Nov 10.
- (2) Wing Rd (Pethick) ZB referral.
- (3) Discussion of 7337 Middle Grove Rd, UMH/Brookview, Witt Construction

Nov 10:

- (1) Locust Grove Rd.(Podhajecki) continued discussion. A public hearing is scheduled for November 24.
- (2) Rte 9N (UMH/Brookview) Discussion continued about storm water handling, sewer treatment, traffic control, buffering, and population density.
- (3) Old Stone Ridge (Witt Construction) Owner not present.

Correspondence

- (1) Lyme Action Bulletin received summarizing current research and the state of tick-borne diseases.
- (2) Phone conversation with an 11-year-old Boy Scout about the EC's Environmental Activity Survey. The scout is working on a Citizenship Badge and hopes to pursue an Eagle Scout project in the next few years.

Town Parks

- (1) Town Parks Planning Committee has begun meeting, chaired by Ty Stacey. EC volunteers have not been invited to participate yet. Their contact information is being forwarded again to the committee.
- (2) A list of tree signs at the Porter Corners Nature Trail that were damaged but re-installed was sent to Theresa so she can include them in her order from the sign-maker.

Adopt-a-Roadside (No report)

New business:

- (1) Long-term planning on topics for community projects:
 - (a) Reduced mowing project. Vince will explore the interest of local beekeepers in culturing flowering plants along Town roadsides. We will aim to have a formal proposal for the Town in March.
 - (b) We plan to invite the public to attend our March meeting where we will summarize recent actions and the new plans of EC. We will advertise the meeting in advance. This may become a seasonal affair.
 - (c) Culverts under roads that create waterfalls can prevent spawning fish from making their way upstream. There may be an alternative design we can recommend.
- (2) A memo is being developed to PB about UMH/Brookview. The ground water, which everyone in Greenfield drinks, will be at risk if 64 more families are moved into the concentrated property owned by UMH. We will address: Stormwater runoff, Sewage effluent, Pollution of wetland, Density of planned residences, and new zero-impact sewage treatments being implemented in a neighboring county to protect the groundwater. The memo will circulate to EC members during the 4th week of November and will be sent to PB by the end of the month.
- (3) Discussion of EC organization for 2016.
- (4) Dec meeting has traditionally included a cookie exchange.

Next Meeting: 17 Dec 2015

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 PM