

# **TOW Conservation Commission**

## **Meeting Notes**

**Meeting of 06/26/06**

### **Begin**

7:35 pm

### **Attending**

- Salvatore LaBruna
- Patricia Owen
- Jon Paul Heurich – Not attending
- Kevin Sumner
- Mike Leary
- Kate Fox

### **Review of Previous Meeting Notes**

- Minutes were handed out from the 5/8 and 5/22 meetings and read individually. Nominated for approval by Pat. Seconded by Kevin.

### **Official Business**

#### **Gordon Project, Professional Building off Goshen Turnpike and Crystal Run Road**

- Sect. 60, Block 1, Lot 68.11
- Discussion with Travis Ewald of Pietrzak & Pfau, representing the developer.
- Discussed recommended bioretention improvements / modifications.
  - Travis has modified the design of several of the run-off areas to convert them to Bioretention areas.
  - Some could not be modified and/or it did not make sense to modify them due to slope of the parking lot.
- In general Travis was very co-operative and agreed to not only modify to meet out recommendations (as much as possible), but also seem very enthused to try to do the right thing for the environment.
- The project already has conditional approval from the planning board.
  - Travis will send us a set of updated plans.
  - Sal will speak to Mr. McGooley to let him know that we approve of the modifications.

#### **Storm Water Legislation**

- The town board will incorporate Kevin's comments into the town law.
- Prior to Kevin's comments there was no enforcement included in the law.
- The public hearing will be August 24<sup>th</sup>.
- If approved, Wallkill will be one of the 1<sup>st</sup> town's in OC to adopt a storm water law.

## **PDR**

- We are expecting an application (for the next submittal) from Sycamore Farms on Rt. 211, Henry and Sue Smith.
- They currently have to go to the NYC market to stay profitable.
- With the PDR they believe they could sell local and still survive.
- This farm borders another farm (Valenga) that may also apply.
- Both are operating farms and have good soils.
- The state likes large blocks so it will be beneficial to have both apply.
- The farm is also near Highland Lakes park.

## **NRI outline and meeting with Montgomery**

- Reviewed an outline of the “action plan”.
- The action plan was created by Montgomery, but we will likely follow the same outline.
- We will concentrate on geology, soils, hydrology, habit, etc., and delay items like historical later until we have the opportunity.
- We will meet with Montgomery on July 13<sup>th</sup> (their normal meeting) to mostly discuss how to utilize the consultants, how much to pay them, etc.
- One report for both towns or two separate reports?
  - The general sentiment is for two separate reports, but the consultant is pushing for a common report.
  - The soils, geology, bio-diversity, etc. in general crosses the boundaries of the towns, so from this perspective it makes sense to have a common report.
  - But, our charter is to make a NRI for Wallkill, so that argues for an individual report.
- We will invite Kelly Dobbins from the planning department to the next meeting (July 10<sup>th</sup>) to help explain how to set up the GIS data.
- Sal will draft a letter to SUNY New Paltz to see if any of their departments can assist with data development (specifically geology and GIS mapping).
- When will see the money?
  - Once the work plan is approved by the DEC then they will supply an “advance” that is usually roughly 25% of the funding.

## **Future Projects**

- Tree cover – Mike will investigate / spearhead.
  - Initial research has been completed and presented.
  - This project will be rejoined once some other already in progress and/or higher priority projects are better under control.
- Sidewalks – Sal will investigate / spearhead.
- Reduction of pollutants in storm water runoffs
- Pace on-line course for land use. Everyone should complete.

## **Adjourned**

Motion to adjourn by Mike. Seconded by Kevin. 8:40.

## **Copies:**

- Mike – 7 copies of a 2 page and a 3 page meeting notes.
- Sal – 7 copies of a 3 page Agenda.