

# **TOW Conservation Commission**

## **Meeting Notes**

**Meeting of 07/25/05**

### **Begin**

7:40 pm

### **Attending**

- Salvatore LaBruna
- Claude Braithwaite
- Patricia Owen
- Jon Paul Heurich
- Kevin Sumner
- Mike Leary
- Kate Fox

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

- Minutes were handed out and read individually. Nominated for approval by Sal. Seconded by Claude.

### **Official Business**

#### **Summer Schedule**

- Will only meet once in August (22<sup>nd</sup>).

#### **Master Plan**

- Scheduled for approval this Thursday.
- Conservation subdivision will be included.
  - There will be two separate votes, but the Master Plan is being considered as one package.
- Still controversy over zoning / lot size modifications of the conservation subdivision.
  - Same lot count with the conservation subdivision option.
  - 3 acres zoning if the developer doesn't meet the conservation subdivision option.
  - Lots of misinformation being broadcast via editorials in the paper, phone calls and a letter from Ray Zwart.
  - Introduced by the planner. Tried and true solution from other towns.

#### **Conflict with Dan Depew over conservation law**

- Dan has sent a letter to most everyone in town government addressing comments from R.J. Smith with concerns over the law's effect on development.

- Many people are confusing the two laws.
- County has written a bad review of one of the proposed laws, but we don't know which law it was about.

### **Hrabowsky 3-lot subdivision**

- We recommended avoiding the vernal pool.
- Came before the planning board
- Site planner agrees with us that it is a vernal pool
- The developer has modified the site plans to minimize disturbance.

### **Saladino, Section 20, Block 1, Lot 32**

- The developer has modified the site plan to create a common access road to address our concern.
- Our recommendation will be that the plan is OK.
  - Will possibly recommend move the one house and septic bed back a little further than the wetland.

### **How do we fight disinformation?**

- Post more on the website?
  - Things like the conservation law are fairly complicated. Needs additional information.
  - The general consensus of the group is that this is a good idea.
  - Will need approval by Mr. Ward.
  - Needs to be kept updated regularly so that people will continue to use it.

### **Tetz concrete plant**

- Comments from a private individual, John Cameron.
  - Approval before an environmental study was ever performed.
  - Case studies of previous lawsuits
  - Letters from individuals and groups.
  - Mike took for review.

### **Planning board meeting August 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

- Sal cannot be there.
- Mike and Kevin will go in his place.
- Sal turns over plans that may be discussed (14 in all).
- Meeting is at 7:30.
- Kevin and Mike will split the plans up and meet 30 minutes before the meeting to review each other's comments on the plans that we have reviewed individually.

### **Reviewed various site plans**

- 2 lot subdivision off of Roome Road (currently a dirt road) off of SR302.
  - Requested for our review by the town board.
  - Not for next planning board meeting so time to review more thoroughly.
  - No topographical map included. Believed to be on a ridge.

- Cooper land on Lendle Land, 2 lot subdivision
  - Requested for our review by the town board.
  - Extensive DEC wetlands on property
  - Existing driveway. Over 1000 feet and encroaching on the wetlands.
  - Kate thinks the property is wetter than is shown on the map.
    - Has it been mapped recently?
    - Are these plans based upon the map or has it been flagged recently?
  - Have they applied for a permit from the DEC?
  - Federal wetland inspectors may mark differently.
  - Previous concerns from neighbors about this development. They believe that this is definitely a wetland.
  - We will visit this site as part of our next meeting.
  - Meet at the town hall at 7:00 and travel together to the site.

**Sal has had some problems with the planning board.**

- Semi attacked for our review of plans that the board asked us to review.
- Review his letter of response and send him comments.
- The general consensus during the meeting was that the general content of the letter was OK, but that there was a little too much of a personal edge to the response to the situation.

**Town is spraying what appears to be weed killer**

- Seems to be overdone.
- Can we inquire about the details?
- Similar concerns over tree trimming and drain cleaning.

**Kevin hands out citizen's survey on the Wallkill Watershed Management Plan**

- Extra copies to pass around to others.

**Adjourned**

Motion to adjourn by Kevin. Seconded by Jon Paul. 9:20.

Copies:

- Mike – 7 copies of 3 page meeting notes.
- Sal – 7 copies of 5 page Meeting Agenda with various extra documents.