

TOW Conservation Commission

Meeting Notes

Meeting of 11/22/04

Begin

7:35 pm

Attending

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

Review of Previous Meeting Notes

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

Official Business

- A seventh member of the commission has been appointed:
 - Kate Fox
- Dan Depew visit and discussion
 - Ball plant fluoride discharge
 - The limit was agreed to by previous water supervisor.
 - Ball purchased the plant under the agreement that the discharge limit would stay the same.
 - The discharge limit law was changed a couple of years ago.
 - The limit was carried over from the previous law at 5 ppm (the EPA limit is 50 ppm).
 - If the town fluoridated their water then normal household effluent would be higher in fluoride than the Ball plant discharge.
 - Ball would move the plant to another location if they had to reduce their fluoride effluent to 5 ppm.
 - The decision was a pragmatic decision based upon the above information.
 - Overlay on the Shawangunk Kill
 - The issue is simply delayed, but still in progress and expected to be formalized soon.
 - Co-operation with / support from the town board
 - Will there be a budget for the commission?
 - It is possible, but we need to establish use for the funds. For now, purchase items and apply for reimbursement. The items reimbursed will establish a record of needs which will lead to a target for a budget.

- Can we obtain ID to help explain what we are doing when checking out potential development sites? Yes. Dan will arrange to have them created. We will need to have our pictures taken. The ID card does not give us permission to trespass or otherwise break the law, but will help explain why we are looking around when investigating new development sites.
 - Dan thinks that we should have an “unofficial” seat on the planning board / zoning board. Provide a representative of the commission with a method of having input on new projects from the time they are first proposed.
- Discuss the Phillipsburgh concrete and asphalt plant project
 - Mike –Air quality
 - Idling
 - Dust
 - Sal - Traffic survey
 - Intersection is currently a C, predicted to degrade to F, mitigation to add light and/or provide a right turn lane
 - Pat - Cemetery
 - No progress Personal reasons.
 - Mike - noise level is already very high from SR 17.
 - Sal – Law on cemetery protection (249-8.1, Dec 2002). No development closer than 100 ft of boundary. Development within 200 ft must be referred to the planning board.
 - On the maps it appears that at least the main office and helicopter pad are within 100 ft of the cemetery boundary.
 - We will recommend mitigation of noise by planting of additional trees.
 - If not possible to add trees along the access road, then build a wall.
 - Kevin – Water quality
 - Better runoff practices than a holding pond should be considered.
 - This may be above the legal requirements, but should be done for a project of this size
 - Ground water based solely on volume, but nothing about quality in impact statement.
 - Previously this was a sand and gravel quarry, so it is possible that it will let water reach the aquifer quicker and easier.
- Priorities for future meeting (after Phillipsburg project review)
 - Master plan review committee meeting.
 - Open space inventory (Mike will start, Kevin will assist)
 - Start with getting examples, Warwick, Goshen
 - Do a section at a time
 - Farm resources as a priority

Adjourned

Motion to adjourn by Sal. Seconded by Pat. 8:45

Expenses

- Sal – 7 copies of 5 page Meeting Agenda
- Mike – 7 copies of 2 page meeting notes
- Mike – 1 copy each of all previous meeting notes for Sal

- (home phone number 733-4470)