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From: "Lynne Eckardt" <midfarm@bestweb.net>
Date: Wed Feb 25, 2004 6:33 pm
Subject: Conservation Commission Recap

Hello All,

Below please find a recap of last night's Conservation Commission Meeting. The meeting was long and I've tried to be as concise as I can. Not easy as there were a lot of complex projects on the agenda. As always, these are not the official minutes.

Comments follow.

1. George Hauser was reappointed as the Vice Chair.
2. Michael Langley was appointed as secretary and recorder of the SCC minutes.

REGULAR MEETING:

1. TERRAVEST: Terravest was moved from #5 on the agenda to #1.

Don Cuomo read a letter received from Riverkeeper. Riverkeeper requesting that the Commission not set a public hearing date on Terravest until pending litigation has been settled. The Board seemed to need clarification on this request.

CRSE reminded the Commission that within the past year it has been policy NOT to continue with any project in litigation until settlement. The 'Campus' was mentioned as a case in point. Chairman Fasano said he had spoken to Willis Stephens and that Mr. Stephens had said that there was no law precluding the Commission from continuing the review process. There was a very brief discussion on policy.

Terry Hahn, the project representative, read a letter stating that: Ms. Eckardt's, Mr. Jacobson's, Mr. Youke's and NYPIRG's letters did not raise significant concerns.

The Commission voted 5-0 to hold a Public Hearing on March 24th. NOTE: I believe that the meeting is actually on the 23rd. CRSE will check this and post meetings time and place when available.

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2. BARROODY: Farm to Market Road. Two 1/2 acre building lots. Another long, tortured history dating back to original BOH approvals in '87 that expired in '89. They were not renewed. The septic systems are largely within the wetland buffers. Harry Nichols is the engineer.

The Commission voted 5-0 to accept applications on lot 1 and 2 as complete.

3. PALAZETTI WAREHOUSE: Fields Lane. Part of this 8000 square foot warehouse is in the control area. There is more than 1 acre of disturbance so that the DEC will need to issue permits. There will be a pump up septic. There are steep slopes. Mr. Nichols was asked to flag the watercourse buffer. The commission voted 5-0 at accept the application as complete.

4. ROSS ALLAN: Lot 49. Salmons Daily Brook Farm. Wetlands have been 'created' here due to 'nearby construction.' A curtain drain froze and ice dams formed. Mr. Nichols said that due to soil type this area can not be considered wetlands.

5. SURACE: Not on agenda- added by Mr. Nichols. Due to a contractor a wetlands disturbance was created on site.

6. THE CAMPUS: Fields Corner: Please see the Planning Board recap of 2/23/02. New information is as follows: There are 7.25 acres of buffer encroachment. No buildings will be in the buffer area. With the newer design there will be an additional 12 school age children within the subdivision. 10 acres will be donated for ballfields. The phosphorus offset program will include sweeping the private roads within the development 26 times a year- this with a wet vac. The Commission voted 5-0 to accept the application as complete.

A brief report on the Tonetta Lake Advisory Committee was presented by Michael Langley. A newsletter has been put together and the committee is considering sterile carp.

Don Cuomo brought up run-off problems on the Alberghini property (Welfare Road). Since a house has been under construction across the street a pond partially on the Alberghini property has been filling with silt. The board was mixed on how to tackle this as run-off/erosion controls fall under the Building Department auspices, but ponds fall under Commission jurisdiction.

COMMENTS:

CRSE believes it is outrageous to allow Terravest to proceed while in litigation. Throughout last year Commission policy has been to hold off on any deliberations until the project's litigation is settled. This was the tact taken on The Campus. One has to ask why Terravest is treated differently? By the way, we made our opinion very clear to the Commission last night.

I would like to thank Steve Fasano for allowing me the floor as this was not a public hearing. CRSE appreciates the accommodation.

Ladies and gentlemen of the Commission:

Form a policy and hold all applicants to the same standards. This should be a priority. CRSE looks forward to a decision on this in March.

Baroody and Palazetti have numerous problems. It will be interesting to watch how the Commission tackles them.

The Campus: A huge, complex 143 lot subdivision. The Commission will make appointments to walk the property with the applicant. CRSE hopes all Commission members will do so- we wish we had the same opportunity!

Please forgive the length of this recap. It was a long night. As always please feel free to e-mail me with any questions that you might have.

With best regards,
Lynne Eckardt

Replies	Name/Email	Yahoo! ID	Date
687 Conservation Commission Recap	Lynne Eckardt	lynne_eckardt	Wed 4/28/2004

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