TILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
TILTON TOWN HALL  
April 20, 2009  

MINUTES

Members present: Kathi Mitchell, Chuck Mitchell, Helen Hanks, Bob Hardy and Jim Cropsey. Also present: Eliza Conde, Secretary.

Minutes: Motion by Kathi Mitchell, seconded by Chuck Mitchell to approve the minutes of March 23, 2009 with a correction on page 2, changing Hunt Brook to Ice House Pond Dam. Motion passed.

Kathryn Dawson announced that the town audits indicate the Commission is owed about $120,000 of Current Use Penalties for the Conservation Fund. The town will make installments over time, and has adopted a new policy of depositing these funds into the Conservation Fund as it is collected in the future.

Brian Flanders – Eased Edges - Mr. Flanders was not in attendance. Members reviewed the site plan as presented to the Planning Board. Helen Hanks observed the following from the abutting property:

- The land is very steep on the west property line
- There appears to be a stone drainage system existing on the edge of the property. The applicant proposes to expand this system.
- The runoff is currently washing the dirt driveway down the hill to the abutting property.

It appears the plan is to move an existing culvert, expand the existing stone drainage and divert the water to the wetlands on the abutting property. Chuck Mitchell noted that there has been a history of runoff problems on this property starting when the previous owner cut the bank back from the road resulting in water and sediment deposited on the abutting property. A letter will be sent to Mr. Flanders with copies to the Planning Board and Land Use office indicating that no further work should be conducted until the Conservation Commission has an opportunity to visit the site. Items of concern are:

- The proposed stone drainage system is within the zoning setbacks
- The proposed septic system may be located too close to the abutting property
- The parking area is within the zoning setbacks
- Diversion of water to an abutting property is not acceptable – all drainage should be handled on site.
The area next to the proposed drainage system is not wetlands, but would create a wetland area as it drains to the wetlands on the west side of the abutting property.

There are historical issues with DES and the abutting property.

Flow rates before and after construction need to be indicated.

**Land purchase – Christmas trees:** Patrick and Helen Bryson have rented the Martin land for sale of Christmas trees in the past. They would like to continue using this site. Helen Hanks informed the Brysons that the Commission has not made any plans for the property yet, but that the proposed use would probably fit with the intended use of the property. The Brysons were encouraged to attend any public hearings to be held relative to the use and management of the property.

**Allan & Jeannie Amrol,** Clark Road: Mr. Amrol has installed a driveway on Clark Road without a wetlands permit, however he is currently working with DES. He has installed a 24” culvert in a man made ditch and part of the driveway is located within the 20 foot wetlands buffer. Chuck Mitchell explained that it appears that the driveway is very close to the wetlands and therefore is in violation of the town’s wetland buffer regulations. If this is true then Mr. Amrol will need to seek a variance.

**Ernie’s Used Cars:** The Selectmen had asked if the Conservation Commission is interested in purchasing this property. The general consensus is that clean up and monitoring of the hazardous waste issues with old gas tanks would be cost prohibitive. The Commission would rather seek other possible beach locations or land with more value for protection.

**Martin Land:** The Commission will hold public hearings at the beginning of the next two regular meetings for public input on the proposed intended use of this property. Items discussed:

- The electricity at the site may still be active. Will need to investigate cost of maintaining it versus turning on and off when needed. If it is still active, the unit should be relocated and in a locked box to avoid potential issues.
- The Park Commission would like to locate a flag pole for the Tree City USA flag on the property. This may be possible on the .10 acre lot near the island.
- The property needs to be cleaned up and seeded. Will seek information from DES on what is allowed.
- A Conservation Easement should be placed on the property as soon as possible. The allowed uses as determined at the public hearings will be included in the easement.
• Members do not want this land to become a parking area or town garage. It is meant to be a green space with the possible addition of an information booth or a minimal structure for a farmer’s market.
• Will submit an article to the Echo about the plans for an easement and seeking public input for possible uses.

Summer camps: There are several options for day camps available in the area. It was decided not to actively seek students, however, if a child is interested the Commission will consider a campership.

Conservation Newsletter: In progress

Correspondence:
• Flanders – Letter from Wetlands Scientist
• American Recovery Reinvestment Act for clean drinking water, etc.
• DES – Procopio – denial dated 04-16-09
• Procopio – plans submitted 03-23-09

Other:
• Conservation website is up and ready at tiltoncc.org
• Kathi Mitchell attended the PB Master Plan meeting. The Conservation chapter remains the same.
• Conservation easement properties need to be monitored.
• Need Buffalo Park maps available at the town hall.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza Conde, Secretary