

**MINUTES OF THE
CENTER HARBOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

August 12, 2009

The meeting convened at 10 am.

Attending were: Bruce Bond, Chairman; Ellen Bennett, Maureen Criasia, Helen Heiner, Karin Karagozian, and JoAnn Wood, Scribe. Randy Mattson represented the Board of Selectmen and Rick Van de Poll attended briefly to update the Commission on progress of the Prime Wetlands project and the Natural Resources Inventory.

The first and most important order of business was to sample and approve Mme. Mattson's excellent blueberry cake and Monsieur Bond's shortbread and macarons. A gentle sigh of contentment immediately ensued.

I. The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved without emendation.

Ib. To prevent the Commission from sinking even further into illegal depravity, it was agreed that Helen would step down as member, thereby ensuring that only one commissioner also sat on the Planning Board.

II. On-going issues discussed were

A. The Planning Board. Helen reported that recent meetings have wrestled with

- Finalizing a Master Plan Vision for the town. Karin asked if the MP would incorporate issues relevant to the CC. It was suggested that a draft of the MP pass through the CC for comment.
- Addressing the issue of the Maggi's B&B and request for additional beds and events, all of which have been denied.

B. The Energy Committee. In Harry's absence, Randy handed out a multi-page energy conservation tip sheet that could form the basis for a hand out to accompany approved permit applications (all agreed it should be condensed. The less desirable properties of beets and asparagus were thoroughly discussed). Further, the complete tip sheet could be included in the Master Plan energy chapter

C. The Dane Forest.

- Although SLCS has not yet given the go ahead, Randy voiced hope that we will soon be able to hold a public hearing
- Maureen said we need to ensure that there is lots of good publicity at that hearing.

D. The Prime Wetlands/NRI Projects. Rick Van de Poll joined the meeting at that point to bring the commission up to date on both projects.

1. A. Regarding the prime wetlands project

- Rick produced maps for review. Several changes were suggested to make the maps read better. He will have the five maps ready for viewing by next month's meeting
- The commission discussed the Fog Hill Bog, which is now on the market. It was agreed that CC members would try to visit the property in small groups before the next meeting (oops)

B. Regarding the NRI

- The CC discussed briefly the rare and endangered species Rick has already identified, such as the white fringed orchid and the water marigold
- Rick will have 'pull-together' maps of roadside surveys by the next meeting.

III. Permits/applications. No CC action required (or possible) on this month's permits/acquisitions

And with no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 am. The next meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn C. Wood
Secretary

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