

Minutes: The Natural Resources and Open Space Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 28, 2010 in the third floor meeting room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Marigrace Larke, Peter Vitali, Mike Horn, Bill Doheny, Hamilton Milroy, Richard Bell, Mike McManus, Daniel Camenga, Ted Kennedy, Aris Stalis

Others in Attendance: Assistant Town Planner Dan Kops, Meeting Clerk Gerry Tobin

Minutes of June 30, 2010

Correction: on Page 1, item 2 under Old Business, change Legislative Council to Natural Resources & Open Space Commission

Mr. Camenga made a motion to approve the minutes of June 30th as corrected. Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Old Business

Lake Road

Mr. Horn mentioned an article in the New Haven Register noting that the Mayor initiated an §8-24 review regarding Lake Road. Mr. Horn and Ms. Larke and Mr. Bell were at Monday night's Council meeting for the discussion of Lake Road. An announcement was made at the beginning of the meeting that Lake Road had been pulled from the agenda. Mr. Kops explained that when a municipality wants to purchase, abandon, improve, a public property it needs the approval of the Legislative Council after review by Planning & Zoning, which issues a report to Council - either favorable or non favorable. Council can approve with a majority vote. If P&Z issues a not favorable report, the Legislative Council needs a majority plus two to approve. Lake Road will be resubmitted with additional documentation.

When Lake Road appears before P&Z it will be a public meeting, but not a public hearing. The chair will usually allow people to voice their opinion.

Mr. Horn said the other major item on the agenda was chickens. Mr. Stalis said that hearing was mentioned on public radio. Keeping chickens has become popular in many areas. Six chickens will be allowed in residential zones, but no roosters. There are specific requirements for the location and construction of chicken coops.

Maselli Farm

Dr. Doheny reported a meeting coming up next Wednesday with Mayor Jackson, the Town Attorney, neighborhood residents and Legislative Council members to discuss the feeling of the area residents. The conservation easement is the goal of this Commission. Dr. Doheny was pursuing funds, and there are funds available for farm land. There was discussion on funds that go to the state from the town clerk's office, \$29 to state and \$1 to town. (Mr. Kops believes that \$1 goes to the general fund.) Dr. Doheny will contact Mr. Horn regarding the results of that meeting.

Tire Pond

Mr. Horn said there was a closed gate there with a federal remediation site sign. Mr. Kops said the first stage is the south end. The north end is still in business receiving transfers of soil to cover the tires. The soil from the remediation of the Newhall area will be going to the Tire Pond. The Town is still using zoning enforcement tools with the businesses on the middle parcel to get them in compliance.

Clay Pit

nothing going on

Stahnke

Dr. Doheny will bring this property up at his meeting with the Mayor.

Dr. Doheny said there is \$11 million for open space acquisition throughout the state. Perhaps we will be able to get a little of that. There is another 25 acres near Brooksvale being considered. The Stahnke property is critical for linkage to other properties and might give us a lead with the state.

New Business

Aris Stalis mentioned that there is a study that has been requested through the South Central Regional Council of Governments for the east west transportation corridors in Town and this commission might have interest in that project. It might be a good idea to get ahead of the curve to see what is on the Town's capital projects list. Mr. Kops will look into who is managing that for the Town of Hamden. Mr. Stalis will look at the budget on line and talk to the Town Engineer.

The Town is moving forward on a LEED perspective (Steven Winter Associates) for the Memorial Town Hall/Police Facility. Mr. Stalis is a certified LEED assessor.

Mr. Horn reminded commissioners of the annual picnic at Dr. Doheny's house at 220 Mountain Road at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Everyone is invited to attend and bring a dish to share.

Ms. Larke asked what is going on on Dixwell Avenue near the New Haven border. Mr. Kops said that is a mixed use complex for studios and apartments for artists and others. It is located on the east side of Dixwell Avenue near the Farmington Canal Trail.

Adjournment

Dr. Doheny made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Vitali seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Meeting Clerk