

MINUTES: The Natural Resources and Open Space Commission held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center.

Commissioners in Attendance: Bill Doheny, Hamilton Milroy, Dick Bell, Mike McManus, Dan Camenga, Aris Stalis, Peter Vitali, Mike Horn

Commissioners Absent: Marigrace Larke, Kevin Burgio

Also in Attendance: Gail Traester, Cindy Civitello, Assistant Town Planner Dan Kops, Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

Mr. Horn called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

1. Review minutes of October 26, 2011

Dr. Doheny made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2011 meeting. Mr. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Mr. Horn announced that Mr. Kennedy has resigned due to family and work responsibilities.

2. Old Business

Mr. Kops had no news on properties of interest.

Maselli Property – Dr. Doheny reported that the process of reviving the conservation easement on the Masselli Property is ongoing. Apparently there are some people interested in doing something with the property, and he is awaiting a phone call. There may be some unexpended Town funds that can be used to stabilize the barn and there should be a matching grant available in the amount of \$5,000 from the state, hopefully by the end of this month.

Dr. Doheny suggested the Commission request that the Town pursue a conservation easement on the McMahon property. Mr. Camenga wondered if we are including who should hold the easement. Dr. Doheny said no, we just want to get the motion on the table.

Mr. Milroy made a motion that the Town pursue a conservation easement on the McMahon property. Mr. Vitali seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. New Business

Town owned property survey: Dr. Doheny said Andy Brand was at a meeting last evening, and he said the Land Trust already has a property inventory and perhaps we should look at it. Mr. Vitali said there has been no activity by the committee. Mr. Vitali said a decision has to be made as to where the data they collect will be stored. The committee will meet briefly following this meeting.

Mr. Bell said there is finality in the stream flow regulations. Underground water was taken out of these regulations, and will come up again. There has been some progress, and the regulations are likely to be approved. Dr. Doheny said we already have aquifer regulations, so how will these regulations work. Mr. Bell said underground water feeds some streams, so diversion obviously affects streams. Using the major rivers as a water source has not been addressed. That is a long term big change proposition. DEEP enforces the stream flow regulations.

Mr. Horn is on the Earth Day Committee. Earth Day will be held Saturday, April 21, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Hamden Middle School. Mr. Horn signed up for the Commission to have a table. He asked commissioners who would like to help. Mr. Vitali, Mr. Milroy, Mr. Bell and Dr. Doheny volunteered. Mr. Horn will submit the form, but will be out of town on 4/21. Mr. Vitali will bring his laptop. We need someone to pick up maps and an easel on Friday afternoon and show up at 9:30 to set up the table. Last year we handed out the

Commission's mission statement. Mr. Milroy brought in some handouts from the Department of Agriculture. There will be the usual scavenger hunt, and each participant will have a question relative to their commission/group.

4. Adjournment

Dr. Doheny made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk