



TOWN OF HAMDEN
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Mayor

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THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday September 30, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Mr. Bell, Ms. Lark, Mr. Vitali, Mr. McManus, Mr. Horn, Mr. Doheny, Mr. Milroy

Commissioners Absent: Mr. Kennedy (excused), Ms. Emery

Others in Attendance: Town Planner Dan Kops
Guest Gail Traester
Clerk Gerry Tobin

Call to Order:

Mr. Horn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Review Minutes of August 26, 2009

Mr. Bell made a motion to approve the minutes of August 26, 2009 as submitted. Mr. Milroy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Old Business

Mr. Horn said the Green Award was presented to the Dunbar Hill Civic Association at their September 14th meeting. There is a photograph on the front page of today's Chronicle. Mr. Horn asked the Civic Association what they

feel should be done with the property. The consensus was the less the better. They agreed that we should have cross conservation easements. Mr. Horn noted that this was the second award this Commission has given, the other was to Ricky Kamp for his efforts in saving the Quinnipiac River Salt Marsh, and that was several years ago.

Properties of Interest:

Stahnke Property

Mr. Kops reported that the Mayor said he thought that the deed had been sent to the Stahnke's to sign but we have not heard back to date.

Maselli Property

Mr. Doheny said the committee is working on the easement, and trying to decide on appropriate uses for the property and what to do with the buildings.

Clay Pit

No news

Benedict Property

The purchase of the Benedict property has been approved by the Legislative Council but the property has not been turned over to date. The funds are coming from various sources, town funds in the amount of \$173,740, state funds in the amount of \$409,500 in return for conservation easement, and the RWA in the amount of \$116,760 in return for a conservation easement, for a total purchase price of \$700,000. Mr. Horn would be interested in coming to a signing ceremony, and asked that Gail Traester be notified as well.

New Business

An open space debate with the Mayoral candidates is scheduled for next Tuesday night, October 6th at Thornton Wilder Auditorium, hosted by the League of Women Voters. Mr. Horn called Nancy Rosenbaum who told him Maureen Carrola, was composing questions for the candidates. Mr. Horn submitted some questions to be considered. Some of his suggestions were: the

future of Five Lakes Park; dog pound; Maselli Farm' and the use of the Stahnke Property.

The issue of the animal shelter possibly going to the Maselli farm came up. Mr. Gorman and Mr. Jackson indicated it would go there. This has not gone before Council. Mr. Horn said they were planning to make a soundproof building. The other site is the former Yale site of 3-4 acres that was originally going to be the ramp for the parkway, ½ mile below the Maselli Property at the bottom of the hill. Mr. McManus said there are many houses near that property.

The Open Space Commission never came out for or against the dog pound on the Maselli Farm property. No recommendation or motion was made, although it was discussed at our meeting. It came up as a possibility during the discussion of several potential uses for the Maselli property. Dr. Doheny said the proposed conservation easement to the land trust would reserve two acres for municipal use. This could come up at the debate on Tuesday evening.

Dr. Doheny mentioned that the shepherd found space in Wallingford.

Mr. Bell feels we are being passive about the dog pound being on the Maselli Farm. Mr. Horn said he thought after the debate we would discuss it and come up with an opinion. There was discussion on the appropriate time for issuing an opinion. Mr. Horn said we look into certain items that we feel we could have input, and have given input on those issues. We are an advisory commission.

Adjournment

Dr. Doheny made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Vitali seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Meeting Clerk