

WOODBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2010

Members in attendance:

D. Leavenworth
I. Davis
D. Hutton
J. King
C. Volage
C. Samoska

Members absent:

Also attending: Sharon Feeley, Open Space Subcommittee Chair; Ed Cole and Jeff Sherman, guests.

Chairman Leavenworth called the meeting to order at 8:05. A quorum was established.

Minutes - I. Davis moved to accept the February minutes; C. Volage seconded. Minutes unanimously accepted.

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup - C. Volage said that all advertisements (through Park and Rec, Voices, Waterbury Republican and individual mailings) are out. She contacted the Watertown Park and Rec and they agreed to clean up the end of Bunker Hill Road at their cleanup on the 27th of April, as this area is becoming unsightly and borders Woodbury. A resident called to request that Rt. 6 near Flanders Road be cleaned up. This is a State road. Ms. Volage said she would try to send a group there, but does not want to send the children to busy traffic areas. The Lions Club wants to adopt Mountain Road. Ms. Volage said she thinks that they will request a sign, but the Commission has done away with granting signs because of the cost, maintenance difficulty and "visual clutter" that too many signs creates. Discussion was held about whether groups could purchase their own signs, but Ms. Volage said that creates a problem for her because she gets all the request calls from others that do not know that the signs were given by the groups. Ms. Volage will discuss with the First Selectman. C. Samoska suggested a letter to Voices thanking by name all the groups. She will assist with this effort after the Cleanup. I. Davis put an article in the Woodlake newsletter and noted that Mr. Burmeister sends a personal thank you to anyone that participates from Woodlake. S. Feeley suggested certificates for participation. Ms. Volage is looking into getting seedlings that can be given away, especially for young volunteers, instead of the video coupons.

Nonnewaug Falls Subcommittee - D. Leavenworth went on a walk at Nonnewaug Falls and was pleased to report there was no trash and no ATV tracks. S. Feeley said that Linda Casper deserves credit for most of this.

Open Space Subcommittee - S. Feeley said the subcommittee is not currently working on the easement at Orenaug Park because there was not enough support in town. Members are still looking into whether any State statutes apply to the ridge for protection. The Reservoir property is just waiting for declassification as discussed at last meeting. The subcommittee is working on a list of open space properties and is getting updates from COG. A group is working at the Castle Rock area to determine boundaries.

Water Quality - no new report.

Correspondence - none

Privilege of the Floor - D. Leavenworth said that we need to recruit new commission members that have science backgrounds or would like to chair. C. Volage said they may allow a group collecting cell phones for soldiers to come to the cleanup registration. A discussion was held about invasive plants and beginning a plan for tackling some of these on town lands. C. Samoska noted that there is a specific Girl Scout badge for clearing an area of invasive. D. Leavenworth said approvals from the Selectmen and public works, and possibly others would be needed to start an effort. C. Samoska and J. King volunteered to help develop an overall, manageable plan for town lands and a pilot program at Orenaug Park for removing akeiva. They will discuss this with the First Selectman. C. Volage will assist; she suggested talking with the Bethlehem Conservation Commission which does invasive clearing in aquatic areas.

April Agenda - Cleanup Summary, Beginning Plan for Invasives.

C. Volage moved to adjourn; J. King seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kaelin
Clerk