

Morristown Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes February 21, 2008

Members present: Amy Walker, Steve Rae, Gert Lepine, Jim Pease

Members absent: Kevin Lane

Guest: Stacy Heur

The meeting was opened at 6:46 pm.

The December 19 meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Amy and a second by Gert.

Report of the co-chairs.

Gert reported that there was a proposed subdivision on Mud City Loop near Call Road. It is near a wetland. There are some neighbors who may want to purchase the land in lieu of the subdivision. The owners proposing the subdivision should be encouraged to remove the subdivision proposal from consideration by the DRB to allow time for that discussion. That meeting is upcoming.

Steve reviewed items for discussion:

Conservation Fund – the funds are primarily in 3 CD's, one of which has just come due. That money is temporarily in a Money Market account (for which the rate is very low; around 1%) . MCC should consider alternative investment vehicles. Edward Jones has provided some advice to the Town. They have suggested: (a) CD or stock market in the short term, terms would be 14 month term @3.55% with the Union Bank; (b) invest \$11,000 in a property of the same value. The commission favored choice (a).

Membership Application Letter – Steve is up for renewal of his commission term. The commission will continue its procedure of sending a letter to the SelectBoard recommending Steve's reappointment. Kevin will write the letter and Gert will sign it.

Town Meeting Plans – Steve and Kevin will compile the last 2-3 years of commission reports from the old Town Reports. Steve will update the questionnaire. Jim will make a Town map.

Wetlands update – wetlands CUD applications are still not being sent to the PC/RPC/CC or Town Clerk. Jim will check with the ANR wetland office again about how to rectify this problem with notification. The Benoit

hearing is on Thursday February 28th. Amy is going to the hearing. She will let the DRB know that the Town is not being properly notified of CUD applications and that the MCC is working to get into the notification loop by the CUD applicant.

Report on the DRB meeting – Amy attended the most recent DRB hearing on the Jersey Heights expansion proposal. Amy summarized her comments. Amy will attend the hearing on the 28th.

Steve brought up the idea for a "Big Tree Contest" to be sponsored by the Commission. After some discussion, the idea was approved. Steve will produce an entry form and make it available at our Town Meeting table, and at the Town Clerks.

New Business:

Stacy discussed her concern about the cedar trees in front of Peoples Academy. They have been removed.

Old Business:

Town Plan – no revisions have been made by the SelectBoard at this time. The Planning Commission has completed their work on the plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. Gert moved for adjournment and Amy seconded.

Respectively submitted,
Jim Pease