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Brooklyn Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes December 2, 2013

Present: Diane Wimmer, Co-Chair; Jeannine Noel, Co-Chair;

Michael Oatley:

Bev Thornton; Harry Adams; Dana Heilemann

Guests: First Selectman Rick Ives; Bucky Lohbusch, Recreation Director; Jana Butts Roberson, Land Use Administrator; Holly Drinkuth

The meeting was called to order by D. Wimmer at 7:30 pm.

A Motion to approve the November 4, 2013 minutes was made by H. Adams. Seconded by B. Thornton. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

The Commission presented H. Drinkuth with a plaque and a token of appreciation for her many years of exceptional service as a member of the Conservation Commission.

A Motion to add "Other" under "New Business" on the agenda was made by J. Noel. Seconded by D. Heilemann. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

No subdivision reviews

The Commission reviewed and discussed MI13-004 Sale of 7.3 acre land-locked parcel located between Tripp Hollow Road and Windham Road, Map 7, Lot 19. A Motion was made by H. Adams to recommend imposing a deed restriction against development and public use if the land is sold. Seconded by M. Oatley. Discussion: This parcel of land is undeveloped. It has a high conservation resource value. It consists of large unfragmented forest. The Commission recommends review by the state archeologist as there is a high potential for archeological findings. The parcel may be considered a riparian buffer as there is a perennial water course. The parcel should be left in its natural state so as to not impact natural resources. The Motion was unanimously approved.

The Commission will continue to meet on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall. J. Noel to submit a letter to the Town Clerk.

M. Oatley to attend the meeting held by the First Selectman on December 7th.

The Commission discussed the mapping budget. The budget could be used to print maps, to create overlays and to create an easement inventory. Google Earth may be used for future projects. Further discussion of the mapping budget to be conducted at the January meeting.

A Motion to move "Old Business" up on the agenda was made by J. Noel. Seconded by B. Thornton. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

Bucky Lohbusch, Recreation Director, addressed the Commission concerning signage at Riverside Park. Signs will be ordered in the upcoming months in time for a presentation in May/June. A sign at the park entrance will have the name of the park. The backstop will have a sign with park rules. The Commission will provide B. Lohbusch with rules for the nature walk side of the park. B. Thornton to speak with Ray Covino, District Conservationist, at USDA/NRCS to get language to put on signs for the stages of the meadow. A river trail map is online at www.tlgv.org. The Commission will further discuss the signs at the January meeting.

- B. Thornton has the remainder of the meadow mix which will be planted at Riverside Park in the spring.
- M. Oatley reported on the lack of progress of the the timber harvest at the Davis Forest. First Selectman Ives to contact the forester.

The Commission discussed putting the Open Space Fund into a CD. The Commission decided against such action. The Board of Finance may want to review.

The Commission discussed the Barrett Hill Farm. First Selectman Ives and J. Roberson will contact Joel Rosenberg to discuss the DEEP Open Space Grant.

A Motion to Adjourn was made by M. Oatley. Seconded by J. Noel. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannine Noel Co-Chair, BCC