

Brooklyn Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Clifford B. Green Memorial Building
August 1, 2016
7:30 PM

Present: Diane Wimmer, Jeannine Noel, Michael Oatley, Harry Adams, and Charlotte Merrill.

A Motion to approve the June 6, 2016 meeting minutes was made by H. Adams.
Seconded by C. Merrill. No discussion. Unanimously approved

New Business, Resignation: D. Wimmer stated that Beverly Thornton has resigned from the Commission.

New Business, Presentation by Flannery/Loughlin regarding development rights to their property: This item was tabled pending the arrival of the presenters.

New Business, Subdivision Reviews: None

Financial Matters, Budget: No discussion

Subcommittee Reports, Event Planning, Source Water Presentation at Brooklyn School Open House: D. Wimmer noted that this event will take place on September 8. Marc Cohen will attend.

A Motion was made by J. Noel to have D. Wimmer make additional source water protection brochures for this event. Seconded by H. Adams. No discussion.
Unanimously approved.

New Business, Presentation by Flannery/Loughlin Regarding Development Rights to Their Property: Jean Flannery and Robert Loughlin of 510 Hartford Road discussed their plans for the property. They hope to sell the development rights and preserve the property. They plan to submit an application to the Department of Agriculture's Farmland Preservations Program. They also are applying for PA 490 classification. Land Use Administrator Jana Butts Roberson suggested they appear before the Conservation Commission.

D. Wimmer stated that the Town has an Open Space Fund that is funded by subdivision fees in lieu of open space as well as an annual assessment. Earlier this year the Town partnered with the State to purchase the development rights to Barrett Hill Farm. The State paid 75% and the Town paid 25%. The process of acquiring the development rights took several years and was approved at a Town Meeting. Farmland properties 1)

with a high percentage of prime farmland soils; and 2) abutting open space are particularly valued. D. Wimmer inquired whether 510 Hartford Road abuts open space. Mr. Loughlin said the answer is no. Prime farmland soils comprise 50.49% of the property. This is right on the edge of what the State looks for. The Connecticut Farmland Trust is another possible avenue. Ms. Flannery and Mr. Loughlin thanked the Commission for the opportunity to present their situation.

Old Business, Report on Agricultural Commission Meeting: C. Merrill provided a recap of the Agricultural Commission meeting she attended in March. A conservation technician from the Eastern CT Conservation District made a presentation on the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. He discussed how to apply for grants for soil preservation and the conservation of other resources.

Old Business, Source Water Protection Brochures: An amended Motion was made by J. Noel to authorize D. Wimmer to spend up to \$100 for 200 source water protection brochures. Seconded by H. Adams. No discussion. Unanimously approved

Old Business, Spooky Nights: The Commission agreed unanimously not to participate in Spooky Nights this year. Parks and Recreation Director Bucky Lobusch can use the Commission's display if he wishes to.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by D. Wimmer. Seconded by H. Adams. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Hopkins
Recording Secretary

