

RECEIVED

DATE

February 7, 2012

## **Huntington Conservation Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

1/12/2012

#### **I. Call to order**

**II. Walter Jenkins called to order the regular meeting of the Huntington Conservation Commission at 7:11 PM on January 1st, 2012.**

#### **III. Roll call**

MR. Jenkins conducted the roll call. The following persons were present: Cindy Sprauge, Margaret Fowle, Laura Birmingham Hill, and Julia Tabor.

#### **IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Walter Jenkins read the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

#### **V. Open issues**

- a) Implementing Riparian Buffers to conserve riverbanks and ameliorate flood plains.**
  - Margaret says she will discuss the possibility of buffering around the Autobahn with the members of the nature center.
- b) The search for prime agricultural land in Huntington for the HCC to purchase and preserve.**
  - The parcel of land behind the town garage is discussed for potential purchase by the HCC for recreation purposes.
  - The Tafts are mentioned in correlation with this piece of land, they are the owners of the parcel behind the town garage and Wally questions whether they should be contacted about a potential buy out by the HCC.
- c) The recruitment of Huntington Residents in support of The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to shore up our riverbanks and preserve our lands.**
  - February 2<sup>nd</sup> 7pm – 9pm is when the HCC will be holding its Riparian Buffer information panel at the town library and there is much discussion about how to generate interest and attendance at this panel.
  - Laura is in the midst of brainstorming the best ways to advertise this meeting, she has discussed “teaser ads” with Mr. Jensen.
  - The collected HCC is wondering if this is the best tactic to use?
  - Laura offers to email Mr. Jensen about the advertising for the riparian buffer meeting and discuss options, flyers with varied headings might be a good option.

- Wally mentions that it would be good to compile a list of persons potentially interested in getting involved with the buffers. We may be able to mine the contact lists for past nature walks, river conservation projects, and other recreation programs for Huntington residents who may be interested in the riparian buffers.
- Margaret mentions that Jim Fecteau might be a good person to have speak to the town about the buffers, he is a great ally since he is both personable and down to earth.
- Laura mentions that it would be a great idea to invite town's people specifically affected by the flooding after Hurricane Irene.
- Laura and Margaret think it would be a great idea to provide some snacks.
- Collected HCC agrees that simple snacks are a nice idea.
- Margaret thinks it would be a good idea to call specific landowners about the meeting before expanding out with other means of information dissemination.
- The collected HCC agrees that before notifying towns people with oppositional views toward the riparian buffering, we should first generate a groundswell of support amongst more amenable Huntington residents.

## **VI. New business**

### **d) Sugar Maker's Open House Promotions**

- Discussion of HCC Sugar Maker's Open House "To Do List" commences.
- Wally mentions that one of our primary focuses should be calling around town to our participants to update the brochure with current information.
- There is the question of where to distribute the brochures after they are updated. Laura mentions the Town Hall, Cindy suggests the Town Office, Beaudry's, Front Porch Forum, and a link to the finished copy on the Town Website.
- Wally volunteers to update the brochure and distribute it at the previously discussed venues.
- Cindy also volunteers to help with the distribution leg of this project.
- Cindy also volunteers to draft an ad for the Time Ink regarding the open house.
- Laura volunteers to gather information about sugar makers who are interested in participating.
- Margaret offers to find out about distribution at the Autobahn.
- Laura mentions that someone should be available via phone should anyone need clarification on key FAQ's, Wally volunteers to do so.
- Wally offers to meet with Aaron to get the brochures laid out then bring them to Heidi for disbursement.

### **e) The VYCC has contacted the Huntington Conservation Commission about a tentative collaboration on recreation path and trail restoration projects.**

- Wally mentions that the VYCC has been in contact with the HCC to coordinate on conservation projects.

- Cindy suggests that we consider the recreation trail behind the town garage for upgrades in conjunction with the VYCC.
- Wally suggests that we give Shelly, Eric, and Bill a call about this specific recreation trail because it is adjacent to their homes and they may need to sign off on a VYCC project.
- Cindy offers to call Shelly.
- The deadline for the project is discussed and Wally assures the group that the deadline for this project is many weeks away.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Wally Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 8:58 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Julia Tabor

Minutes approved by: