

Conservation Commission
Sherman, Connecticut



February 8, 2012

Linda Yannone, Chairman of the Conservation Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM on February 8, 2012.

Present: Linda Yannone, Chairman, Joanna Wozniak, Ashleigh Blake, Pat Bailey, Karen Facey, Geoff Gwyther, Colette Shulman, Helen Bray, Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes for December and January was postponed to next month.

BUDGET

The budget for the fiscal year July 2012 to June 2013 was discussed with some talk of asking for more than the usual amount but decided against it. Joanna made a motion to maintain and request the same amount as previous years, seconded by Geoff and so moved.

Linda will submit the budget in the amount of \$1750 to the Board of Selectmen.

ENERGY FAIR

Colette is open to the idea of another energy fair but would like to hear why another one is being considered. One of the reasons was Joanna's attendance at a fair and hearing someone report on a fair in Goshen called a Conservation Feasibility Fair, which would be a better name since it will probably bring in a broader range of people and different groups. There were all kinds of activities and finished up with a hike. It gave the Conservation Commission a stronger recognition in the town and got them in touch with some land acquisition agencies. It had a very good turn out.

Ashleigh suggested having children's activities since this draws the parents. Joanna suggested summer time as better time. It has been sometime since the Sherman Conservation Commission has had some kind of event.

There was discussion on what to call this fair and set a target date. Linda suggested the commissioners get their thoughts and ideas together and bring this back to the next meeting.

Other agencies should be invited such as Wetlands, Naromi, Candlewood Lake Authority and Planning & Zoning. Pat suggested having a builder come in to demonstrate how to have an energy efficient home. Lakota Builders was suggested and Joanna will contact them. Other vendors should be contacted, especially for do-it-yourself projects.

Locations were discussed. Most likely on the green. A target date was set for July. Linda would like any ideas to be sent to her and the commissioners by e-mail so she has something to work with next month.

TOWN WEBSITE

Linda wants to have a link on the town website to inform people about energy savings and other ideas on conservation.

BIO FOR NEW COMMISSIONERS

Linda would like to take pictures of the two new commissioner, Karen Facey and Joanna Wozniak and write up a bio for the paper.

ENERGY TASK FORCE

Linda suggested after the event planned for this summer, try to get an Energy Task Force together. Colette thought people should be educated to understand their electric bill and more information about green energy. Pat mentioned that CL&P has a demonstration house for the public to explore to learn how to have a totally energy efficient home.

PARTY

Linda thought the CC should have a party to honor Joe Keneally's years of service as chairman of the CC. A date was set for Saturday, March 24th at 6 PM at Linda's house. This date will have to be checked out with Joe.

NEW COMMISSIONERS

Pat asked the new commissioners to talk about their background and interest in conservation. They both gave a brief outline on their backgrounds and present interests in conservation and Linda will have their bio published in the newspaper. All the commissioners then gave their bio.

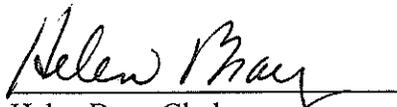
Colette spoke about being on the Land Acquisition Board and they are presently working on a report for open space. Going into this field there is much to learn about land conservation and it has become a very complicated field because to preserve open space requires putting together a coalition of donors as done with Towner Hill. The federal and state government are only allowed to give 70% in a grant. This gives argument to restoring the annual town budget funding which Andrea stopped several years ago.

Linda asked the commissioners if they have anything to add to the monthly agenda to e-mail it to her.

There being no further business Pat made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ashleigh and so moved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS ON MARCH 14, 2012

Respectfully submitted,


Helen Bray, Clerk
Conservation Commission