

Scituate Conservation Commission

May 9, 2006

Official Minutes

Attendees: Christopher Modisette, Thomas Angell, Cheryl Dexter, Cynthia Gianfrancesco, Ruth Strach, and Jon Vernava

Absent: Paul Dolan Guest(s): None

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.

Resignation:

Mr. Modisette has resigned his responsibilities as Chairman of the Conservation Commission and Land Trust effective May 11, 2006. He stated that he regrets having to make this difficult announcement and that his tenure with the Conservation Commission has been both challenging and rewarding.

Mr. Modisette's recent employment as RC & D Coordinator with the USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service could create potential conflicts of interest. He will still volunteer his time to the town.

Secretary's Report:

Ms. Strach moved to approve the minutes to the April 11, 2006 meeting, seconded by Mr. Angell. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Matter from the Public:

There were no matters from the public.

Financial Reports:

This topic was briefly discussed. The tax assessor had originally requested a donation from the commission in the amount of \$1,500.00 for the GIS Mapping upgrade. The commission authorized \$1,000.00 and requested more information on the upgrade. Ms. Gianfrancesco moved to raise the contribution \$500.00 (from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00), seconded by Ms. Strach. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman's Report:

The tree planting ceremonies for Arbor Day went well at the schools.

It was noted that June 3, 2006 is National Trails Day.

Old Business:

Property Committee:

Chair Modisette stated that Mr. Angell scheduled a meeting with the new property owner of the old Lawton homestead. A stonewall was built on Land Trust property and it may have to be removed. The new property owner would like to purchase the triangular piece of land owned by the town. A Land Trust meeting will be held in June to discuss this matter.

The commission has already voted not to approve the sale of land.

Tour Schedule:

Ms. Strach stated that the North Scituate Library will be holding a Centennial Celebration on August 26, 2006. The Preservation Society will hold walking tours. It is possible the commission in conjunction with the Providence Water Supply Board could sponsor a walk on notable trees and tree identification in the village.

The Estate Planning Workshop will take place in the fall.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL:

Land Acquisition:

Chair Modisette has met with property owners in the Potterville section regarding an appraisal that was completed for their property. A final easement and letter from Gorham's Law Office will be sent to the property owner for approval.

Other:

Mr. Peter Lockwood offered to host a tour of the vernal pools at Westconnaug Meadows on June 21, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. .

Correspondence:

This topic was briefly discussed.

Adjournment:

Ms. Strach moved to adjourn at 7:58 p.m., seconded by Ms. Gianfrancesco. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia M. Russo