

Litchfield Conservation Commission

May 6, 2010

7:00 p.m. Town Hall

2 Liberty Way

Minutes Approved June 3, 2010

Members Present: Joan McKibben Chairman
Tom Levesque – Vice Chairman
Sharon Jones
Marion Godzik
Roger St. Laurent
Richard Husband
Michael Croteau – Alternate

Selectmen’s Rep: Frank Byron

Absent: Stephen Tarara – Alternate

Minutes approved 6/3/10

Called to order 7:04 PM

Items Discussed:

1. **Grace Free Presbyterian Church** –SFC Engineering, George Fredette from SFC Engineering in attendance representing Grace Free Presbyterian Church. Roger St. Laurent steps off the board for discussion. David Jordan of SFC Eng., previously met with the Litchfield Planning Board; Grace Free Church is looking to expand the building and parking area. The building now is 3,900 sq ft and is within the aquifer protection district they are looking to put on a 6,600 foot addition with 80 additional parking spaces. There is currently 15% impervious they are proposing 33% impervious which is within regulations section 1255.00 b. Conditional Uses within a Commercial District. Per 1256.00 Performance Standards b. Stormwater management, David Jordan at the Planning Board discussed existing drains, increase in volume from runoff flowing northwesterly toward Colby Road, proposed detention/retention pond to control rate of runoff complying with State, Federal and local requirements. SFC Engineering is looking for LCC’s recommendation to the Planning Board. Joan McKibben (JM) asks about water from roof runoff? George Fredette(GF) answers they would pipe it into the ground. JM asks a question regarding the retention pond’s long range management? GF answers as part of BMP for DES it is the landowner’s responsibility. JM what about porous pavers in parking area? GF they would be more expensive. There will be 2-3 feet of gravel under the porous pavement and with either the pavers or the pavement there would be storage capacity beneath the surface. David Jordan previously mentioned to George Fredette that the seasonal high water in this area is high. Marion Godzik (MG) asks what will happen with the existing sloping green? GF, it will be chopped off a bit and made steeper. The landscaping plan has approximately 40 trees to be added. MG will the huge maple tree in front be retained? GF, trees in front will remain. JM will the leachfield out front of the building be removed and reconstructed out front? GF didn’t have

those plans with him, but the test pits were done already, 2 test pits, 36" is the seasonal high water table. Tom Levesque has concern with the retention pond, George Fredette says the plan states the pond will be cleaned periodically and what is removed will be moved to another site. Tom Levesque says that will need to be enforced.

Tom Levesque **Motions** LCC to send a letter of recommendation to the Planning Board with 'strong language' regarding the pond being checked and cleaned and the owner to document and send annually to the Litchfield Code Enforcement Officer, Marion Godzik 2nds the Motion. Motion carries 6-0-0.

2. **Public Input** – None
3. **Fishing Derby** – Saturday, May 8th, Marion Godzik, Mike Croteau, Richard Husband and Sharon Jones will arrive by 7:30 a.m.; there are 3 'tagged' fish. Marion Godzik emailed Lynne Ober (reporter for Hudson Litchfield News) and Lynne will be there. Notes for 2011 fishing derby less fish by 50-75 and get a couple of bigger fish!
4. **Map 2 Lot 83 and 128** - Jay Hodes not back from vacation for another week, Joan McKibben will contact him then. Tom Levesque **Motions** to go into a NON-PUBLIC SESSION 91-A:2 II c, at 7:30 PM all members voted yes.
7:50 come out of NON- PUBLIC.
5. **Map 23 Lot 25** Trail system naming – readdress at a future meeting.
6. **Sybil Lane** – there were 5 lots subdivided way back, Mr. Ricker current owner can't get an approval for a septic system because of a swale that runs behind proposed septic design. Joan McKibben received a letter from the owner 1.) stating they wanted to donate the land to LCC, 2.) requesting an IRS tax form be filled out, and 3.) Town of Litchfield agrees to pay for the appraisal/transfer fees. Joan McKibben spoke with Andy Prolman (attorney for the property owners) and she said LCC would probably not want to invest money since that property wasn't attached to a big parcel and that was not included on LCC's list of property of interest as outlined. Andy Prolman mentioned there are several people that own the property and maybe they would be willing to pay for an appraisal. Richard Husband says it's land – 5 acres that we would be getting for a good price, Sharon Jones, Roger St. Laurent and Tom Levesque all agreed. Tom Levesque **Motions** LCC to send a letter to the property owners stating if there is a clear title, the property owners pay for the appraisal and closing costs, LCC would accept the donation and fill out IRS form 8282, Roger St. Laurent 2nds the Motion, Motion carries 7-0-0.
7. **Moore's Falls Conservation Area** – Roger St. Laurent cleaned all but 1 tree (a widow maker!!!) from 2/25/10 storm. Someone with a back hoe would need to get it. Mrs. McKibben spoke to Jack Pinciero – Litchfield Road Agent, he'll go down to do the work, Roger St. Laurent will call him to set up a time they can both be there.
8. **RAARP** (Reptile and Amphibian Reporting Program) Joan McKibben saw and someone photographed two Northern Water Snakes breeding at Benson's Animal Farm on May 1, 2010.
9. **Map 9 Lot 82** – Rt. 3A trees cut down, Kevin Lynch Litchfield Code Enforcement Officer told Joan McKibben he had been out to the property a couple of times but the parents were not home

just the children. Mr. Lynch told Mrs. McKibben he had the Forrester out, this has been ongoing since January 2010, Tom Levesque will speak to Mr. Lynch. LCC to address in June meeting.

10. **Re-appointments for 2010-2013** – BOS voted that the Recreation Commission and the Conservation Commission should have background checks run because of any involvement the Commissions may have in the company of children. Applications for background checks will go to the Town Clerk.
11. **Correspondence** – Joan McKibben sent a letter to K & M Development re; Annandale replanting and organic fertilizer, advising them not to plant too close to the wetlands.

Any Other Business:

Frank Byron thinks it's a good idea for LCC to take a tour of the Town Incinerator Facility.

Roger St. Laurent Motions to accept 4/1/10 Minutes as amended, Tom Levesque 2nds, Motion carries 7-0-0

5/13/10 @ 5:30 P.M. LCC to go out to Conservation Land at Stage Crossing brush cutting needs to be done.

8:47 PM Roger St. Laurent Motions to adjourn, Tom Levesque 2nds, Motion carries 7-0-0.

Next Meeting(s) 6 -3-10

Submitted by: Sharon M. Jones, Secretary