

# HINESBURG CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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*Rob Farley, Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy,  
Bill Marks, Nancy Plunkett, Gerry Livingston (Chair)*

## *MINUTES 22 January 2007*

The meeting was brought to order at 7:08 PM.

Present: Rob Farley, Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy, Bill Marks, Gerry Livingston

Absent: Nancy Plunkett

The meeting opened with a rather lengthy discussion about the development review process and the HCC's role in this. It was again agreed that the Commission needs to take a more progressive stance in these efforts but that we must make it explicitly clear in written or oral comments whether we speak for the Commission or for ourselves.

**ACTION:** Bill and Dave agreed to prepare a first draft outline of guidelines the Commission should follow when addressing proposed developments to improve our effectiveness and response time. A key part of the guidelines will include identifying those sections in the Town Plan that we as a Commission should specifically address. We will continue to evolve these guidelines as we gain experience with actual reviews.

**Reports** Bill, Dave and Rob summarized their respective thoughts regarding their participation in ongoing development reviews.

- High Point development (French property) – Bill and Dave summarized discussions and events of the site visit and Jan.16 DRB meeting. The Commission strongly supports the environmental, housing density, and site issues raised by various members of the Hinesburg and Charlotte communities. It was agreed the Commission will continue to monitor this effort and advocate for fewer houses and for houses to be located near the Drinkwater Road.
- Texas Hill Road (Bedard property) – Rob summarized concerns regarding drainage and storm water management, lot size, common water supply, and common septic system of the proposed development. The Commission will continue to monitor this proposed development particularly in view of parallel developments also proposed on neighboring parcels.
- Carse-Ballard development (near Geprag Park on Rt. 116). Bill summarized concerns raised at the site visit and DRB meeting but noted the developer is working to adjust the proposed design to meet those concerns where possible.
- Sherman Hollow Road. Gerry summarized issues raised at the first community meeting held to address the sale of a 162 acre parcel. Although no development is yet proposed, it was agreed the Commission should continue to be involved in these discussions and formally consider potentially forthcoming conservation proposals by the community.

### *Old Business*

Greenspace and Cultural Resources Plan: Discussions regarding the Introduction were rescheduled to the next meeting to allow Nancy to participate.

### *New Business*

It was agreed the Commission needs to recruit new members both to better represent the community and to better address our responsibilities. Discussion focused on how best to approach this. No

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formal action was initiated at this time as it was noted the Town has already advertised the open positions.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- SB meeting Feb 5, 7:30 PM. Geologist from local institutions will summarize current understanding of subsurface geology and radionuclides in groundwater within the Town of Hinesburg.
- DRB and PC training workshop on Planned Residential Developments – Feb. 6, 7:30-9:30. We should all plan to attend.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:08 PM

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, February 12, 2007, 7-9PM, Town Hall

Respectfully submitted: David Hirth