

HINESBURG CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

MINUTES of March 10, 2008

Opening

The regular meeting of the Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on March 10, 2008 in the Town Hall by Gerry Livingston.

Present: Conservation Commission Members Rob Farley, Charles Kogge, Gerry Livingston, Nancy Plunkett, and Matthew Probasco

Absent: Dave Hirth, Melissa Levy (maternity leave), Bill Marks (leave of absence)

Visitors: *Matthew Probasco (VT DEC), Kristen Sharpless (VT Audubon), April Moulart (VT FWD) and Jane Lazorchak (VT FWD)*

ANR Wetland Presentation

April Moulart and Jane Lazorchak from the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department gave excellent presentations addressing non regulatory incentives and programs offering technical or financial assistance to land owners and municipalities in support of wildlife and wetlands protection or restoration. The presentation opened with an inventory and prioritization of existing lands throughout Hinesburg that meet the State's criteria for potential restoration or protection. Two of the underlying goals of these programs is to protect the water quality of streams draining into Lake Champlain in support of the State's Clear & Clean Program and wildlife habitat. The presentations made clear the amount of interest at hand to aid land owners in improving stewardship of their lands.

Perspective Members: In expressing their interest in seeking appointment to the Commission, Kristen Sharpless and Matthew Probasco introduced themselves to those members of the Commission present. Matthew actually met with the Select Board to seek appointment earlier the same evening. As an employee of VT DEC, Matthew offers a strong background in stormwater management. In turn, Kristen offers a strong background in natural resource management and education, and has worked extensively with the Hinesburg Land Trust.

Addendum – Matthew's application for appointment to the CC was approved by the Select Board (March 10th). Kristen is scheduled to meet with the Select Board regarding her appointment, April 7 (gpl).

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM by Gerry Livingston. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 PM on March 24, 2008 at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted: Rob Farley