

TOWN OF YORKTOWN CONSERVATION BOARD

July 21, 2010

Present: Co-Chairperson Ann Kutter, Walter Plankl, Bob Carroll, J. Patrick Francois, Diane Dreier, Walt Daniels, and Co-Chairperson Phyllis Bock.

Guests: Ms. Linda Miller (for the proposed tree ordinance)
Mr. Vishnu Patel (for the Town Council)

Co-Chairperson Ann Kutter called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.
The meeting took place in the Town Hall Board Room

Chairpersons Report and General Discussion:

Notice of an upcoming ELLA meeting for July 26th, 9:30 a.m. at 625 Broadway, Albany, NY, was distributed.

The change of plantings proposed by Bruce Barber for the Aspen and Mills subdivision was explained. The explanation addressed our previous concerns.

The Teatown site acquisition and subdivision is moving ahead. There must still be testing to demonstrate that a septic for lot #3 is feasible.

A kick off meeting involving the major Town regulatory and advisory parties to the Costco project should soon be held. A date for a first meeting has not been made. Mr. Plankl and Mr. Daniels are planning to attend, Ms. Dreier indicated her desire to act as alternate. Mr. Patel noted that Costco has some 2,400 members from Yorktown on its roster. He also noted the difficulty of balancing "Progress with Preservation." Ms. Kutter reported that the Planning Board noted that the site may need other access in the event that route 202 is closed for any reason (emergency, repairs, etc.)

There was a brief discussion regarding developing a checklist the Board and applicants can use to verify that necessary materials are submitted before an applicant appears on the agenda. Ms. Bock noted that there was a previous check list for applicants to use. She will provide a copy from her records. Ms. Kutter and Ms. Rice will follow up.

Regular Session:

The Minutes of July 7, 2010 were unanimously approved. (Moved by Plankl; seconded by Carroll; passed unanimously)

New Business:

Mr. Plankl noted that Algonquin Gas Company came to the E-Panel because it needs to repair a gas line that traverses wetlands, streets and the Taconic Parkway due to corrosion. The drilling will be horizontal, causing little disruption. There will be some trenching, also.

CREATIVE LIVING

A mitigation plan was received. It was noted that the plan calls for the use of a seed mixture. Several members noted that the use of seeds would take years to become established, and further noted that ground cover plantings need to achieve 85% coverage in one year. Further details about the newly proposed use of artificial turf are sought, along with details of the proposed bridges across the stream. (The previous memo of June 18/19 was based on an assumption that bridges would be pre-built and then dropped over the stream.) The previous questions about Milorganite and an archaeological survey plus Mr. Barber's wetlands survey remain open. Ms. Kutter will draft a follow-up memo and circulate it for members' review.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Subsequent to Mr. Barber's discussion with the Board about public education for the management of stormwater, the Board discussed various options but no action was taken. **Members were asked to consider which of the identified areas they would be willing to work on.** Those areas are: Environmental Conservation Department outreach to include materials and information on stormwater management; Information to be included in the Parks and Rec fall brochure; letters to the editors or op ed pieces for the Examiner and North County News (which should be passed by the Supervisor's office before submission as a courtesy); information handouts at local street fairs and the Grange Fair; and a potential rain garden demonstration project.

ZEAL/Parmly Road

No one from the applicant appeared.

Tree Preservation Ordinance

Ms. Linda Miller joined the Board to a detailed discussion of the proposed Tree Preservation Ordinance. She noted that the writers were trying to make the burden on the individual resident as light as possible, noting that owners can manage their trees with few problems with the ordinance. She noted that in addition to the research into similar ordinances around the county, peer reviews and many discussions with town department heads, local arborists were consulted, and that they agreed that preservation is needed and that there could be minimal costs involved. The intent is to ensure that quasi-governmental and governmental entities observe the law (even though school districts are by law,

exempt). Ultimately, the ordinance will maintain forestation at 70% or more of the current amount.

A motion to endorse the ordinance (with some changes) was made by Mr. Daniels, seconded by Ms. Dreier. The motion was passed 6-1.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm on a unanimous move and second (not individually noted – AK and Carroll?).

J. Patrick Francois

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