

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
CONSERVATION BOARD  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
AUGUST 25, 2009**

The August 25, 2009 regular meeting of the Conservation Board was called to order by Board member Dr. Edward Merker.

**Attendance:** Charles Friedberg, Shoshana Hantman, Dr. Frank Lapetina,  
Dr. Edward Merker

**Absent:** James Moriarty, Gloria Rosenzweig, Gary Meixner

**Guests:** None

**Announcements:**

Board member Dr. Edward Merker phoned C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis to inform her that he may be late for the meeting tonight.

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**Announcements:**

Board member James Moriarty phoned C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis to inform her that he would not be able to attend the meeting tonight.

Board member Shoshana Hantman emailed C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis to inform her that she may be late for the meeting tonight.

Board member Gloria Rosenzweig phoned C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis to inform her that she may not be able to attend the meeting tonight.

Ms. Davis announced that the Planning Board is going to have their regular meeting tomorrow night.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Shoshana Hantman and seconded by Dr. Edward Merker to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2009 regular meeting of the Conservation Board. All members present approved.

There were no changes made to the draft Conservation Board minutes from the members attending the meeting.

Board member Moriarty phoned C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis to inform her that he did not have any corrections for the meeting minutes of August 11, 2009.

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**Old Business:**

- A)** Dedication of Trailway or Area to John L. Behler/Update for Conservation Board/Dr. Edward Merker to contact Open Space Committee/Michael Barnhart: (EM)

The Conservation Board discussed the above project and asked for some clarification regarding the subject matter from C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis.

Ms. Davis reminded them that this endeavor is awaiting discussion between a C.B. member (formerly Chairman Meixner) and Open Space Committee Co-Chair Michael Barnhart in order to obtain a better understanding of how the Board can go about recommending this dedication to former Board member John Behler.

A brief discussion took place among the Board members with reference to this subject matter and what it entailed.

Ms. Davis noted that at the last meeting Dr. Merker offered to be of assistance in this matter and volunteered to contact Michael Barnhart of the Open Space Committee. She mentioned that it was on the Agenda for an update from Dr. Merker.

Board member Dr. Edward Merker informed the Board that he phoned and emailed Mr. Barnhart and left him a message. He advised that he would continue to pursue this matter.

A report will be forthcoming as soon as contact has been made.

The Board members took no further action at this time.

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**Old Business:**

- B)** Discussion Conservation Board/Update/regarding a letter from Town Planner/Hull to Deputy Commissioner Buroughs AICP dated July 14, 2009/re: Mahopac Branch Trailway & JFK High School Campus: (EM)  
The Conservation Board briefly discussed the above memo from Town Planner Hull to Deputy Commissioner Buroughs regarding the Mahopac Branch Trailway and JFK High School.

Dr. Merker informed the Board that he has been in contact with JFK High School and he is attempting to get in touch with the City of New York to pursue the Trailway.

A lengthy discussion ensued among the Board members with reference to this project and the recommended extension of the Trailway in the area of the JFK High School Campus. To date Dr. Merker noted that there has been no real action on this matter.

The C.B. members noted that they would like the County to be able to use the grant money that is appropriated for this project and get it under way.

The Board members discussed this application at length. The members mentioned (and agreed) with the fact that Rte. 138 was not a favorable road for egress, i.e. driveways and roads and they also mentioned that they felt that way about the use of Plumbrook Road (which is closed for use at this time except for pedestrians).

The Board members took no further action at this time.

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**Old Business:**

**C) Conservation Board Budget 2010/Prepare for Finance Office/review by Conservation Board/need to submit six copies:**

The Conservation Board Secretary Ms. Davis explained the Budget for 2010 as it was written. She noted that it had to be submitted to the Finance Department by September 10, 2009.

Ms. Davis advised the Board that the Budget is very similar to what was submitted by the Conservation Board in 2007 for the year 2008 (which the Town Board later adopted). Ms. Davis noted that there were no increases, raises or other additions to the C.B. budget. She explained that basically the budget as well as her hourly rate and hours paid had not increased.

C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis informed the Board members that she would be getting Chairman Meixner's signature on the document before submittal to the Finance Department in September.

The Board members took no further action at this time.

**D) Conservation Board Goals 2010 and Accomplishments 2009/for Budget for Town Board/Email from Supervisor Murphy 8-21-09: (CB/RD)**

The Conservation Board discussed the above subject matter with reference to the recent email sent to C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis and subsequently forwarded to them.

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**Old Business:**

**D) Budget/Goals/Email from Supervisor Murphy:**

Ms. Davis asked the Board members if they received the forwarded email that was sent to Supervisor Murphy and stated the following information:

Email to Supervisor Murphy:

\*

*The C.B. members asked me to email you with regards to the Goals for 2010 and Accomplishments for 2009 as it appears in the Budget request sheets.*

*The Board members discussed the above subject matter at their meeting and they all agree that they are a volunteer Board, with practically no budget to speak of and they noted that they are not a department (such as Highway or Planning Board).*

*The Board members explained that they do not feel the necessity to create goals and accomplishments as they volunteer at the pleasure of the Town Board to uphold the Town Code on applications.*

*They would like your input in this matter as soon as possible.*

*Thank you.*

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**Old Business:**

**D) Budget/Goals/Email from Supervisor Murphy:**

Response from Supervisor Murphy:

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*Yes, I agree. The C.B. responsibilities are clearly laid out in the code.*

*Thank you for contacting me.*

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Ms. Davis commented that it appeared as if the Town Supervisor agreed with the Conservation Board on this issue.

Ms. Davis noted that the Conservation Board already has their itinerary as outlined in the Code Book and since they operate at the pleasure of the Town Board, they therefore should be exempt from having to create goals and accomplishments as part of their budget request.

The Board members were content with the outcome of this request and they took no further action at this time.

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**New Business:**

- E)** Omnipoint Communications @ Towne Centre/Site Plan/Planning Board, Cover letter dated 8-3/8-6-09, from R. Gaudioso of Snyder & Snyder & 7-10-09 letter from On Air Engineering; Sheet Z-1 to Z-7 dated 8-21-08, revised 7-10-09, Prepared by On Air Engineering LL, (Rte. 100 Towne Centre): (GR)

The Conservation Board tabled discussion on the above Planning Board application for Omnipoint Communications at Towne Centre site plan until their next meeting.

C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis informed the Board members that she delivered the application to Board member Rosenzweig shortly after the last meeting on August 11 as requested by the Board at that time.

Board member Gloria Rosenzweig will review the materials submitted and give a report to the Board.

A report will be forthcoming at the next Conservation Board meeting.

The Board members took no further action at this time.

**New Business:**

- A)** Nash-Cohn/Lot Line Change/Preliminary Subdivision Plat/Planning Board, dated February 10, 2009, revised June 4, 2009, TM-27.10-1-20.1 & 20.3, Prepared by Badey & Watson Surveying & Engineering, PC, (#5 Two Penny Lane/#82 Lake Road): (GM)

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**New Business:**

**A) Nash-Cohn/Lot Line:**

The Conservation Board members will review the above Planning Board application for Nash-Cohn lot line change, preliminary subdivision plat, site plan at their next meeting.

Some discussion ensued among the Board members with reference to this application and who reviewed the site plan previously. They recalled that Chairman Meixner had been working on this project.

Dr. Frank Lapetina mentioned that he could look at the application, if necessary and Board member Shoshana Hantman said that she would like to go with him.

As their personal agenda's did not mesh, Board member Dr. Merker suggested that the Board consider having it delivered to Chairman Meixner for review, as he is already familiar with the site.

Dr. Lapetina said that would be a good idea. He went on to explain that there are no real Conservation Board issues with the project as it involves a lot line change. He noted that the applicant's request merely involves non-conforming buildings, which is not a concern for the C.B.

C.B. Secretary Ms. Davis was asked by the Board members to deliver this application to Chairman Meixner as he is already familiar with the site and has completed a review and report previously.

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**New Business:**

**A) Nash-Cohn/Lot Line:**

Chairman Gary Meixner will review the materials submitted and give a report to the Board.

A report will be forthcoming at the next Conservation Board meeting.

**B) St. Joseph's Church/JFK High School/Site Plan/Planning Board dated August 13, 2009, TS-Title Sheet dated 8-13-09; SP & Zoning table dated 8-11-09; Church & Parking layout plan; Sport Field 1 & 2; Fire Access road plan & profile; Steep Slopes 25% & greater, tree plan 1-4; Church garage driveway profile, wall elevations & sections; Details 1-3; Onsite wastewater treatment, SP, Layout plan, Details; Steep Slopes, wetlands & wetlands buffer map; Steel hydrologic map; Site distance analysis; Proposed Stormwater management C/1-3; Sediment & erosion control plan C/4-6; Stormwater management details C/7-10; Watershed map-existing condition, pre/post; Church parking lot, planting plan/planting details & notes; Stormwater pollution prevention plan & drainage analysis; Other-Letter from D. Cackovic to PB, 8-13-09, (Rte. 138/across from Best Plumbing): (EM)**

The Conservation Board members will review the above Planning Board application for St. Joseph's Church/JFK High School site plan, steep slopes, erosion control, wetlands and stormwater management details at their next meeting.

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**New Business:**

**B) St. Joseph's Church/JFK High School:**

Board member Dr. Edward Merker will review the materials submitted and give a report to the Board.

A report will be forthcoming at the next Conservation Board meeting.

**C) Wright's Court/formerly Barlow Court/Hallic Place/Site Plan Planning Board dated August 17, 2009, Landscape Plan 8-14-09; Redesign exterior façade 8-24-09/added mech. Room 7-24-07, Building A-1, A-2 & B; Existing conditions plan; Aerial Neighborhood Plan, Site Layout Plan; Site grading & utilities plan; Sediment & Erosion Control plan; Driveway Profiles & Sediment-Erosion Control details; Construction details, Drainage & sight line profiles; Construction details; Sediment, Erosion & Construction sequencing notes, Prepared by Kellard Sessions Consulting PC, (Scott Drive/off Rte.100): (CF)**

The Conservation Board members will review the above Planning Board application for Wright's Court site plan, sediment-erosion control, drainage, grading and construction details at their next meeting.

The Board members inquired about the status of this project and where it was located.

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**New Business:**

**C) Wright's Court/SP:**

After some discussion on the matter it was decided that Board member Charles Friedberg would review the materials submitted and give a report to the Board.

A report will be forthcoming at the next Conservation Board meeting.

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There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:30 PM by Board member Charles Friedberg and seconded by Board member Dr. Edward Merker. All members present approved.

The next regular meeting of the Conservation Board will be held at the Town House on September 8, 2009 at 7:30 PM.

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Subsequent Conservation Board meetings are tentatively scheduled to be held at the Town House on September 22, 2009 and October 13, 2009 respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosetta Davis  
Secretary  
Conservation Board

Cc: Town Board  
Town Clerk  
Town Engineer  
Town Planner  
Planning Board  
Zoning Board  
Open Space Committee  
Architectural Review Advisory Board  
Landmark Committee