

SOUTH HADLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2008
Approved at 1/28/08 meeting.

PRESENT: Jack Fleming, Chair; Dennis Swartwout, Vice Chair; Jim Canning, Secretary, and Art Jackson. Brad Allen excused. Janice Stone, Conservation Administrator.

1. 6:30 PM DISCUSSION & VOTE on a Request for Certificate of Compliance for #288-353, lot 6 (#14) Apple Road at the Cote's development off Lyman Terrace. There are two outstanding issues that are difficult to complete under these winter conditions. The slope behind the house should be planted and stabilized with permanent vegetation. There are no good photos to show this before the snow, but the applicant Joyce Cote states that she double-seeded it, and Janice remembers some grass when she looked there in November. The buyers have insisted on some money being set aside for the completion of any outstanding Conditions, such as the grass and the permanent monumentation. Janice has spoken to the Cotes and their attorney LaBrie. She estimated and they put aside into an escrow account \$1,000. to complete the monumentation when the ground allows it. Ed Chapdelaine the engineer has surveyed the line on the ground, and the Cotes need to suggest the form of permanent monumentation to the Commission for approval before installation. The buyers completed the sale before the end of 2007 and are living in the house. They installed a large black fence around much of their backyard, to protect their dog and young child. They did not appear to have cut any trees, but Janice should contact them and remind them that there is no disturbance allowed within the limit shown on the plans. They did put the statement into their deed, as required in the OOC. Art made a motion to approve the issuance of a partial Certificate of Compliance for lot 6 in this development. Dennis seconded it, and all voted in favor.

2. 6:50 PM DISCUSSION about the draft wetland bylaw regulations. The Commission reviewed the April 2007 draft, and started commenting on it section by section. Commissioners will consider how to reword the last sentence in Section 1.2 Purpose. The streams map is still in the works, but is difficult to do well since it is hard to see the stream under trees in some areas. Commission should take photos of the different streams to document their status. The Commission discussed the fee structure for various applications. Janice will put together a list of fees charged by other towns with wetland bylaws, especially some of the towns in the immediate area, so the Commission can consider if the fees are similar and fair. The Commission ended the review for tonight at section 2.0 Definitions. Next meeting to be determined on January 28th.

3. 7:50 PM ADJOURNMENT. A motion was made to adjourn, which was seconded, and voted unanimously in favor. Next regular Conservation Commission meeting January 28, 2008 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Stone,
Conservation Administrator