

**Mansfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of the January 16, 2002 Meeting**

Present: Denise Burchsted, Robert Dahn (chair), Jennifer Kaufman, Quentin Kessel, Mary Rogers, John Silander, and Frank Trainor.

Absent: Lanse Minkler and Robert Thorson

Town Staff: Grant Meitzler, Inland Wetland Agent.

1) The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

2) Following an editorial correction, Rogers moved approval of the minutes of the December December 19, 2001 meeting. Kaufman seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3) Old Business

Fenton River water levels: Kessel reported that the river level appears quite low for this time of year.

4) New Business.

a) Open Space Committee Report: Kessel reported on the January 15, 2002 meeting. At this meeting the management plan for the Dunhamtown Forest and the nearby white cedar swamp was discussed.

b) Park Management Issues: Kaufman reported that the Town is applying for a Recreation Trails Program Grant to assemble and disseminate a parks information system. The Conservation looks forward to having better more user friendly information available about our parks and preserves to encourage public use and appreciation.

c) Lands of Unique Value Study: The first public session for the study is scheduled for February 7, 2002, with February 12, 2002 for a snow date.

d) Gasoline engines on Naubesatuck: The CC reviewed and approved the contents of Town Planner Greg Padick's January 16, 2002 letter to the Conservation. The apparent inconsistency between the Lake Tahoe studies and the Naubesatuck test results were noted. The CC looks forward to continued reports on Naubesatuck Lake water quality, especially being kept current of any new water test results.

e) Proposed Revisions to Subdivision Regulations: The CC reviewed the January 15, 2002 letter to the PZC written by Silander on behalf of the CC. Kessel moved, and Trainor seconded, that the CC endorses the January 15, 2002 letter written by John Silander to the PZC and that a copy of this letter should go to the Town Council. The motion passed unanimously.

While, the CC supports the revised subdivision regulations presented at the public hearing on 1/15 and the CC realizes that it is likely that PZC will soon endorse the

adoption of these regulations with revisions. However, we would like to continue study the feasibility of adding wording to the regulations that will encourage cluster/conservation development. To this end, the Conservation Commission would like to schedule a meeting that would include Town Council, PZC, Open Space, and the Eastern Highlands Health District to discuss the possibility of adopting cluster development or conservation development in our revised subdivision regulations. Kaufman will schedule such a meeting if it appears these other groups might support the effort.

g) IWA Referrals

W1162 - Shafer – 48 Echo Road. Map date, November 13, 2001. Kessel moved and Trainor seconded that there should be no significant negative impact on the wetlands if the erosion and sedimentation controls indicated on the map are in place during construction and removed after the site is stabilized. The motion passed unanimously.

6) The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Quentin Kessel
Secretary, *pro tem*.