

## **10/24/06 Conservation Board Minutes**

### TOWN of ELMA CONSERVATION BOARD

DRAFT - MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING October 24, 2006

I The Regular Meeting of the Town of Elma Conservation Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, was held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Elma Town Hall, 1600 Bowen Road, Elma, New York.

#### PRESENT: ABSENT:

Chairman Fred Streif William Massaro

Member Raymond Boy

Member William Massaro

Member Marc Schneckenberger

Member Bryant Zilke

Kenneth Schroeder (Substitute for W. Massaro)

Recording Secretary Diane Rohl

#### II MINUTES OF 9/26/06

Motion to Approve by Raymond Boy and Second by Bryant Zilke. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0.  
Motion carried.

#### III PDR GRANT û TOWN OF ELMA

(a) The ECB was notified by the Town Supervisor that the Town of Elma was awarded a PDR Grant for \$216,000 by the NYS Agriculture and Markets Department. The money will be used to purchase development rights to the Leonard Janiga farms on Jamison Road. Fred Streif, Bryant Zilke and Diane Rohl were commended for their efforts in this endeavor. The ECB was reminded that although the Town had submitted a number of grant applications in prior years, this was the first time they were successful. The ECB appointed Bryant Zilke as the Liaison/Project Manager to work with the Town Supervisor in the administration of the Grant.

Motion to Approve by Marc Schneckenberger and Second by Fred Streif.  
Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

(b) The ECB agreed that it was not too early to begin working on the next grant

application that once a Town gets their foot in the door, it is easier to get a second grant, provided the proposed parcels meet the criteria and the facts and needs are well documented. Bryant Zilke and Diane Rohl volunteered to begin the process to prepare for the next round of applications. Suggestions were made regarding mailing letters of interest to farmers, obtaining a list of properties over 20 acres, etc.

(c) The List of 30+ (from the March 2005 open meeting) was distributed to the ECB members. The mailing was completed. This list will be revised tomorrow based on additional information from the Town Assessor's Office. Assignments to ECB members to call individuals on the list will be sent via email by Diane Rohl with the new list of people and properties owned. Diane Rohl also provided a list of residents who have picked up applications for Land Conservation Easements. Currently there are seven. None have been submitted thus far.

#### IV REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Extract from the Town's Regional Comprehensive Plan was reviewed by the ECB. Items were identified as Town Board responsibilities, ECB responsibilities, Planning Board and Zoning Board responsibilities and also joint responsibilities. Subsequently it was suggested that a letter be drafted and sent to the individual Boards regarding how the ECB views its role and what it has determined as its direction. Marc Schneckenberger and Raymond Boy will prepare a draft letter for the November Meeting.

#### V COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

A discussion of the format to be used for the presentations was followed by what resources the ECB could draw upon to include in the program. William Jackson and Diane Rohl with the help of Raymond Boy will put together a draft for the November Meeting. Mr. Jackson volunteered to contact the WNYLC to determine if there were materials and programs available that we could incorporate into our presentations.

#### VI WNYLC CONFERENCE

Several of the ECB and the Town Assessor have registered to attend. Cost of the workshop for the ECB (\$25 each) will be charged to the ECB Town Budget.

#### VII OTHER BUSINESS

Bryant Zilke explained the current Federal and State Tax Laws as they pertain to Land Conservation Easements. The Federal Tax Income Exclusion is based upon permanent

contribution, donation or bargain purchase option: 100% of income for farmers; 50% for non-farmers. The State Income Tax Law, Section 606, is tax abatement at the local level. It has no affect on the school district, town, or county because New York State is giving back the dollars to the individuals through filing of the income tax form at the end of each year. It was suggested that since each individualÆs circumstances are different, each person needs to verify his status regarding any tax reductions with his individual accountant. Raymond Boy volunteered to investigate further the details of the tax laws as they pertain to land conservation easements.

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 9:15 by Fred Streif and Second by Glenn Reinhardt.  
Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Rohl,  
Recording Secretary