

TOWN of ELMA CONSERVATION BOARD  
**1600 Bowen Road Elma, NY 14059**

**MINUTES OF MEETING – March 25, 2008**

**I The Regular Meeting of the Town of Elma Conservation Board, hereinafter referred to as the ECB, was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2008 PM in the Conference Room at the Elma Town Hall, 1600 Bowen Road, Elma, NY.**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman Bryant Zilke  
Member Laurence Daley (Arrived at 7:30; Left at 7:45)  
Member William Jackson  
Member Marc Schneckenberger  
Member Kenneth Schroeder  
Alt/Recording Secretary Diane Rohl**

**ABSENT:**

**Member Raymond Boy**

**I MINUTES OF February 26, 2008**

*Motion to Approve Minutes Made by Kenneth Schroeder and Second by Bryant Zilke.  
Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion Carried.*

**II CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**A brief meeting was held at which time Mr. Janiga provided the Search and Survey to his property. Mr. Nolan has a copy of the Appraisal Report on the Janiga Farm. The ECB asked that a letter be written to the Supervisor to: (copy attached)**

- Request a copy of the official Appraisal Report.**
- Request an update on the status of the PDR Grant.**
- Remind Supervisor of availability of Diane Rohl as Assistant Liaison.**

**III LAND INVENTORY**

**Diane Rohl reported that to do the complete inventory with all of the overlays would require a specialized software costing about \$2,500. At the present time she was not able to reach anyone at the University to determine whether any interns would be available to assist in this endeavor. William Jackson offered to contact John Whitney of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for his assistance. The ECB passed the following resolution to enable him to proceed:**

*Motion Made by William Jackson and Second by Diane Rohl that as a requirement of the Elma Conservation Board, the ECB must have an inventory of all parcels of land within the Elma Town boundaries. To continue its charge, it is requested that William Jackson, member of the ECB, contact John Whitney of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, to provide data and mapping in print and digital format for the use of the Town of Elma, and specifically for the ECB. It is understood that there will be no charge for this service. Unanimous. (copy attached)*

**IV REVIEW OF CRC PRESENTATION TO TOWN BOARD BY WENDEL**

Diane Rohl stated that Drew Reilly from Wendel Duchscherer had given an overview of the three proposed Commercial Codes and the proposed Zoning Map that is still being revised between Wendel and the Building Department. The Town Board concurred that it was important to have some feedback from the public on the proposals. The CRC meets on March 27<sup>th</sup> to review the proposals one more time prior to setting a date for the Informational Public Hearing.

*Motion Made by Marc Schneckenberger and Second by William Jackson to send an email to the Chairman of the CRC, Dean Puleo, with copies to Dennis Powers and Michael Nolan requesting that the Set Aside Proposal as initially introduced by the ECB in January, be included in the proposed Commercial Codes. Unanimous.*

**V MANAGEMENT PLAN – CONSERVATION EASEMENT**

Mr. Jackson reviewed the intent of the Management Plan, that of monitoring the conditions of the Easement Agreement and the conditions of the property as being maintained in its original condition. This had been discussed at previous meetings.

*Motion Made by Marc Schneckenberger and Second by Kenneth Schroeder to approve the Management Plan as submitted. Unanimous.*

**VI POLICY ON GRANTS**

Diane Rohl made copies of the 2007 Miller Farm Grant that was not funded. She and Larry Daley will be analyzing the difference between the 2006 Janiga Farm Grant that was approved to identify some of the salient points of each. The goal is to once again be successful in assisting the Town in obtaining another farmland protection grant.

**VII STATUS OF BDR ON SPRINGBROOK SHORES**

Chairman Zilke said he had received a copy of a letter from Phyllis Todoro, Town Attorney, approving the Baseline Documentation Report submitted by the ECB.

*Motion made by March Schneckenberger and Second by William Jackson that based upon the receipt of the Town Attorney's legal opinion, the Elma Town Board grant its final approval of the Baseline Documentation Report for Springbrook Shores. Subsequent to this approval, the BDR, along with a copy of the survey, is to be forwarded to the Erie County Clerk's Office to be filed with the Deed as an official Land Conservation Easement on the designated property within Springbrook Shores. Unanimous. (copy attached)*

The ECB also discussed the necessity of the entire Board visiting the property as soon as weather permits; date to be set at the April Meeting.

**VIII UPDATE ON LAND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS**

Diane Rohl reported that she has visited Mike Cole's Office several times to get an update on his staff preparing enabling legislation to solve the problem involving our local law. As yet, there is no progress to report. She wrote an article to be posted on the New York Association of Towns' Web Site seeking information from other towns who may be facing the same situation that the Towns of Elma and Orchard Park have in regard to percentage reductions of assessments on land in conservation easement agreements. (copy attached)

**IX RE-TREE ELMA**

Diane Rohl reported that she had written articles to be published in the local papers and the Buffalo News advertising Re-Tree Elma through the Erie County Re-Tree WNY Program. She made up posters to be displayed around the Town. She also contacted the Assistant Principal at Iroquois High School to request that he announce the need for volunteers through their Senior Community Volunteer Program. Larry Daley, ECB Member, has agreed to help in the volunteer effort. As the Municipal Coordinator, Mrs. Rohl is working with a representative from Re-Tree WNY and has ordered forty-three trees at no cost to the local taxpayers, to be planted at the Town Hall. Planting dates will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>.

The ECB discussed supporting the Great American Cleanup sponsored by Erie County. They identified various areas around the Town that would be good sites for a cleanup effort; on the other hand, due to the Re-Tree Elma Program going on at about the same time, they decided they could not handle two new programs now. Diane Rohl will investigate to see if there are alternative times of the year when the program could be conducted.

**X FYI**

Results of Elma First Elma Development Survey  
Building Inspector's Reports – January & February 2008  
Code Review Committee Minutes - 2/28/08  
Elma Planning Board Minutes - 2/19/08  
Elma Town Board Minutes – 2/13/08, 3/05/08

**XI ADJOURN**

*Motion to adjourn at 9:30 PM made by William Jackson and Second by Bryant Zilke.  
Unanimous.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Rohl,  
Recording Secretary