

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

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING – APRIL 10, 2008**

**I A Special Meeting of the Town of Elma Conservation Board, hereinafter referred to as the ECB, was held on Thursday, April 10, 2008 PM in the Conference Room at the Elma Town Hall, 1600 Bowen Road, Elma, NY.**

**PRESENT:**

**Chairman Bryant Zilke  
Member Raymond Boy  
Member Laurence Daley  
Member William Jackson  
Member Kenneth Schroeder  
Alt/Recording Secretary Diane Rohl (Schneckenberger)**

**ABSENT:**

**Member Marc Schneckenberger**

**I OPEN MEETING**

**Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.**

**II REVIEW DRAFT LEGISLATION**

**Copies of a draft of a legislative bill from Assemblyman Mike Cole were distributed to members of the ECB prior to the meeting. The purpose was to allow them to study the bill beforehand.**

**The ECB reviewed the highlights of the proposed legislation. The consensus was that the bill did not address the issue of legalizing the method of land assessments for land conservation easements as referenced in Chapter 52 of our Local Law. As specified within the bill, a land conservation fund would be established from revenues collected from a local real estate transfer tax, maximum of two percent. Various methods of protecting or acquiring property were outlined.**

**The ECB decided that the proposal had merit and should receive further study as another method of land conservation. On the other hand, everyone agreed that efforts should continue with local and state legislators to pass enabling legislation to preserve our program as much as possible as it is currently written.**

***Motion made by Raymond Boy and second by William Jackson to write a letter to Michael Nolan, Supervisor on behalf of the ECB, recommending the following:***

- *Diane Rohl meet with Assemblyman Cole to request new draft legislation.*
- *Mr. Nolan pursue all avenues available with Senator Volker.*
- *Diane Rohl continue to work with Orchard Park and their Planning Department, specifically attending their next meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> by their request. Invited also will be staff members from the State Legislators' Offices and the Orchard Park Town Attorney.*

*Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion Passed Unanimously.*

*Motion made by Bryant Zilke and second by Diane Rohl to write a letter to Assemblyman Mike Cole on behalf of the ECB, expressing appreciation for his efforts and outlining why the proposed draft he provided would not legalize the local law as it exists; also requesting that he persevere in finding other options to address the issue; and that Diane Rohl meet with him as soon as possible to confirm our request.*

*Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion Passed Unanimously.*

**Motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Unanimous.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Diane Rohl,  
Recording Secretary**