

TOWN OF ELMA CONSERVATION BOARD
1600 Bowen Road Elma, NY 14059

MINUTES OF MEETING –November 25, 2008

I The Regular Meeting of the Town of Elma Conservation Board, hereinafter referred to as the ECB, was held on Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 7:00 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 Marc Schneckenberger
Member Kenneth Schroeder
Member/Recording Secretary Diane Rohl

ABSENT:

None

I ECB LAND INVENTORY

A. View CD of ECB Open Space Data File

Subsequent to the October meeting, it was determined by William Jackson and Diane Rohl that without the appropriate GIS Arc software loaded on the laptop, it would not be possible to view the ECB Land Inventory files currently set up on the Water Department computer.

B. RFP - Joseph Ghosen, South Arrow Consulting

Following a resolution made by the ECB at the October meeting, Item II, A. (2), William Jackson and Diane Rohl prepared an RFP for consulting work to complete the tasks begun by them on the Water Department computer, using the GIS ArcView/Map software. Based upon an excellent recommendation from the Town of Eden Deputy Supervisor, the RFP was sent to Joseph Ghosen, South Arrow Consulting, 414 Parker Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14216. Mr. Ghosen was then invited to review his proposal at the November ECB meeting.

Mr. Ghosen reviewed some of the projects he had worked on as a consultant. These included Naval bases, Puerto Rico, Olmstead Parks, City of Buffalo, Buffalo River Keeper and the Town of Eden. (List and project attached.)

He indicated some of the work he has done and is doing with the Town of Eden:

- Completed Land Inventory for the Conservation Board
- Designing maps to facilitate agricultural preservation.
- Training in GIS for Highway, Assessor and other Town departments.
- Working with various Boards to support use of GIS at meetings.
- Assisting in Town Web Site Design.
- Designing GIS program for intercommunication between departments.

Mr. Ghosen then proceeded to review the scope of work in the RFP and to answer questions from the members. He estimated the work would take 40 hours at a cost of \$30/hour, or \$1,200 total. Mr. Ghosen also stated that he does not carry Errors and Omissions Insurance. (A copy of the completed RFP is attached.)

II APPROVE MINUTES -October 28, 2008

Motion made by William Jackson and second by Larry Daley to approve the Minutes of October 28, 2008 as written.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion Carried.

III UPDATE ON LAND INVENTORY PROJECT

Motion was made by Raymond Boy and Second by William Jackson to retain the services of Joseph Ghosen, South Arrow Consulting of 414 Parker Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14216; such services to include the scope of work basically outlined in the RFP as submitted by Mr. Ghosen at a rate of \$30/hour, total amount not to exceed \$1,200. Method of payment will be mutually agreed upon. More specifics and/or modifications to the RFP will be developed as soon as possible and/or as the work dictates.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion Carried.

Subsequent to Mr. Ghosen leaving, Marc Schneckenberger voiced some objections to the wording and scope of work in the RFP. He said he will make some changes and send them out by email to the ECB for any comments and/or "problems".

IV CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Update on PDR Grant 2006

Bryant Zilke reported that the site plan for the Janiga Farm, as specified in the PDR Grant, is in the hands of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Department. He said that the Town is working with the assistance of the Western New York Land Conservancy to bring the matter to a conclusion.

B. Second Draft - Cost Benefit Model

Raymond Boy provided some cost models citing the number of households in Elma and property tax examples. He indicated that he is still gathering data. He said that he will continue to work on various scenarios and costs before making any formal recommendations to the ECB.

V PROPOSED CONSERVATION EASEMENT LEGISLATION

Diane Rohl reported that she had sent Assemblywoman Elect Jane Corwin the last and final draft of the proposed Land Conservation Easement Legislation. Diane explained that she had kept her informed regarding the work being done on this through the joint efforts of the Towns of Orchard Park and Elma. She also said that Jane Corwin is expected to attend a Town Board meeting soon.

Keeping pending land conservation easement applicants informed, Diane Rohl sent them another letter regarding the legislative progress being made.

VI STATUS BDR - SPRINGBROOK SHORES

Diane Rohl reported that this is in the hands of the Town Attorney and that she has not heard anything further from her.

VII TOWN OF ELMA SURVEY (Tabled October Meeting)

A. Review of Previous Town Survey

B. Discuss Development of New Survey on Land Conservation

In light of the recent defeat of a Bond Issue in East Aurora to purchase land for conservation; and the present economic picture; it was decided that this item should be tabled and re-examined for consideration in May 2009.

VIII DESIGN GUIDELINES COMMITTEE – COMMERCIAL CODES

Diane Rohl reported that at the Town Board's request, the Planning Board recommended two of their members to be placed on the soon-to-be formed Design Guidelines Committee. They were David Baker and Gregory Kalinowski. She also told the ECB that the Town Board felt there was adequate representation on the Committee and therefore they will not require anyone from the ECB.

IX RESIGNATION FROM ECB

Diane Rohl submitted her letter of resignation effective December 31, 2008. She thanked the ECB for allowing her to participate and contribute to the meetings for the past three years even though she was not a regular member until this year. She also said she will continue to represent the ECB by working with legislators to get a new Land Conservation Easement Law passed and by supporting its inclusion in the GIS Grant Application.

Motion made by Bryant Zilke and Second by Raymond Boy to accept the resignation of Diane Rohl as a member of the ECB effective December 31, 2008.

Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Abstain: 1 (Rohl)

X FYI

WNYLC Membership Acknowledgment

Building Inspector's Report – September 2008

Elma Planning Board Minutes – Town Web Site

Elma Town Board Minutes – Town Web Site

Elma Zoning Board Minutes – Town Web Site

XI ADJOURN

Motion made by Bryant Zilke and Second by Raymond Boy to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 PM.

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Rohl,
ECB Recording Secretary