

## GROTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### Open Session Minutes

April 25, 2009

Chairman Marshall Giguere called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room in Town Hall. Members Peter Morrison, Craig Auman, David Pitkin, and Bruce Easom were also present. Wayne Addy arrived at 8:10 a.m. Member Ryan Lambert was absent. Conservation Administrator Barbara Ganem was present.

Regarding the zoning amendment proposed at the upcoming Town Meeting on wind energy conversion devices, C. Auman said it was his understanding this is a way to establish ground rules for installation of the devices in Groton. P. Morrison added the amendment would put some parameters in place for the installation, and the height seems to be the biggest issue. Upon a motion by C. Auman, seconded by P. Morrison, it was

VOTED: to support the zoning proposal on wind energy conversion devices.

Four voted in favor, while B. Easom voted in the negative.

D. Pitkin requested clarification from the Commission about whether he was speaking in favor of both Article 22 and 23 regarding the design of a sewer project at Lost Lake/Knops Pond. Article 22 pertains to the preparation of an income survey to determine the demographics of the Lost Lake area. Members agreed that this was the case in the vote taken at the last meeting in which the Commission unanimously voted to support both articles.

An article in support of the development of a field at the Cow Pond Brook recreational area is proposed for funding under the Community Preservation Act at the upcoming Town Meeting. M. Giguere noted this is in priority habitat and will require a MESA filing. There are two certified vernal pools on either side of the access driveway, and there are lights proposed to allow night games. C. Auman mentioned it is irritating that the proponents did not apply for any state grants to offset CPC funding of recreational fields. B. Easom mentioned the application was approved by a 5 to 2 vote, but the lights increase the costs by \$60,000 or 25% of the entire cost. The proposal did not include the cost of trenching or cable to install the lighting. Rick Hughson will serve as project manager if the article is passed at Town Meeting which is likely. Members agreed to send a friendly reminder to the proponents and Mr. Hughson about the need to file with MESA because of the priority habitat.

Upon a motion by P. Morrison, seconded by B. Easom, and a roll call vote of P. Morrison, M. Giguere, D. Pitkin, C. Auman, and B. Easom, it was

VOTED: to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and land acquisition, not to return to Open Session at adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara V. Ganem  
Conservation Administrator

**Approved as drafted 5/12/09.**