

TOWN OF MARILLA
CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 4, 2010

I. Call to Order

Roger Gustavel called the meeting to order at 6:52 PM.

Members Present: Roger Gustavel, Jim Hopper, Pat Blarr, Debbie Beats, Debbie Lerner, Marian Prezyna, Jim Heinrich

Town Board Liaison: Don Darrow

II. New Members Welcomed

Roger introduced and welcomed two new board members, Debbie Lerner and Marian Prezyna. Asked both new members to give us their background and reasons for joining CAB. Roger gave new members 2010 Goals and 2009 Report. Roger further explained these reports in detail.

III. Reports from Members

- Alternates – Don informed and updated CAB that Town Board is in the process of drawing up a draft policy.
- Town Comprehensive Master Plan – Don informed that this plan has not been updated in 15 years. Town Board wants CAB to be more involved regarding this plan. Town Board will ask for CAB's input. Roger commented that CAB members should become more familiar with Town Code Book in anticipation of this year's tasks.
- Urbanik's Nonconforming Building Lot on Clinton – Roger asked Don if there was a hearing in February. Don to research this and get the facts. CAB is concerned about this lot and using driveway to gain access to build another house in the back. Are issues like this going to come to CAB's attention? Don suggested we voice our concerns to Town Board.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Roger asked if all members had the chance to review minutes from January. A copy was available for all to review. Jim Heinrich moved and Deb Beats seconded to accept the January minutes as written.

AYES: 7 NAYES: 0 MOTION: Carried

Jim Heinrich excused himself from meeting 7:26 pm.

V. Reports from Members Cont'd

- Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper Workshop – Pat gave a brief report of the workshop she and Roger attended January 16. Pat reported that Roger expressed concern at this workshop of septic pollution in Marilla's creeks. The Erie County rep suggested that a local septic cleaning company may be willing to provide a discount coupon to the town residents. Also suggested that the Town has the option to consider subsidies for this service. There is a need to educate our residents of the importance of having their septic systems cleaned. Not just to benefit our creeks. It would also act as preventive maintenance for future expensive repairs on the septic system. Don expressed concern over water that runs across Two Rod Road. This water should be directed to drain into creek. Don suggested a beautification plan for the hamlet/center of town with proper drainage. Pat reminded CAB that we need to decide if we want to become member of Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper. The Basic fee is \$25.00. Marian volunteered to call Erie County Water & Soil to find out if this fee is annual. Roger informed that Marilla has approx 75% watershed waters because of the numerous creeks that run through our town. Deb Lerner

asked what the advantage to CAB would be to become a member. Deb L asked if it would require tasks or duties on our part. Roger read the sign up sheet and membership provides CAB with many communications – both regular and if necessary alerts and updates. Marian suggested that they would be available as a resource for our use to educate our residents thru mailings or to hold workshops on the topics of septic systems, storm water drainage, stream bank erosion. Pat moved and Deb L seconded the motion to become members of the Buffalo Niagara Riverkeepers for a \$25 Basic Fee.

AYES: 6 NAYES: 0 MOTION: Carried

Pat will complete the form and voucher and give to Clerk to forward to Town Board.

- Town Comprehensive Master Plan Cont'd – Don informed that Town Board's goal is to complete by the end of this year. Pat will ask Dawn for copies of Comprehensive Plan for all CAB members who do not have one plus one for each alternate.
- Farmland Protection Plan – Roger informed that Supervisor Gertz attended a NYS Dept of Ag meeting helping other towns model our Farmland Protection Plan. Town Board requested that CAB establish this Plan in writing. This is one of our goals for this year. Roger informed that we will use Jason Engle as a consultant for this.

VI. Unfinished Business

- Town Recycling – State's ban on leaf burning was brought up. Discussion ensued regarding the possible purchase of a vacuum type vehicle. That would impact Highway Dept. personnel. Marian will contact Master Composters. Mass mailing discussion began. Need to decide format of mailing and size. Three-folded brochure vs. four-folded brochure. Roger reminded all that recycled paper must be used for this mailing. Pat will contact Dawn to get costs of town mailing and contacts, etc. Jim Hopper will get cost information at the Post Office. Deb B. suggested students can help with the folding, if necessary. Roger would like to include town recycling statistics. Deb L volunteered to gather statistics and facts. Deb L volunteered to call W. Seneca regarding grant for bins. Marian will contact Cornell Coop Ext for data or materials on recycling. Don requested that more information be gathered regarding recycling bins grant and we can start the paperwork process. Dawn could provide us with the number of homes in the town. Don suggested that CAB get the numbers gathered and then meet with Highway Superintendent to discuss further. Roger suggested if we can find another town comparable to ours that currently recycle we could use them as a model to follow. Marian wondered about a DVD with garbage facts. Don suggested that such a DVD on the subject of garbage could be played in Community Center for Ag Day. Deb L suggested that the sign outside of the community center could be utilized for recycling reminders. Marian suggested that CAB could create separate newsletters on the subject of conservation that would be mailed opposite the town newsletters to educate and inform and remind residents twice a year.
- New start time – Roger asked best time for all to meet. Start time was changed FROM 6:45 to 7:00 pm. This change in addition to day change FROM 1st Tues of month to 1st THURS of month. Pat will communicate this to Town Clerk. Next meeting April 1 at 7 PM.

VII. Adjournment

Roger requested a motion to adjourn. Marian moved and Pat seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm.

AYES: 6 NAYES: 0 MOTION: Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Blarr
CAB Clerk