

TOWN OF MARILLA  
CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: November 10, 2009

I. Call to Order

Roger Gustavel called the meeting to order at 6:51PM.

Members Present: Roger Gustavel, Pat Blarr, Jim Hopper, Debbie Beats, Jim Heinrich, Bud Pearce

Fred Specht, Town Board Representative

II. Approval of Minutes

Roger asked if all members had the chance to review minutes from October. A copy was available if needed to review. Jim Heinrich moved and Debbie Beats seconded to accept the September minutes as written.

AYES: 6      NAYES: 0      MOTION: Carried

III. Reports from Members

- Open Burn Law ó Became effective October 14, 2009. Roger had a few copies of the news release from the State Department of Environmental Conservation. This article stated that this new law was created out of concern for air pollutants that are harmful (such as plastics, Styrofoam) and to prevent wildfires. Burning household trash was common in generations past. It wasn't harmful because that trash did not contain the dangerous chemicals that are emitted with today's trash that consists of plastics, batteries, foils bleached /chlorinated paper, etc. The following are exceptions to the open burning law:
  - On-site burning of limbs and branches between May 15<sup>th</sup> and following March 15 in any town with total population less than 20,000
  - Barbeque grills, maple sugar arches & similar outdoor cooking devices
  - Small cooking & camp fires
  - On-site burning of organic agricultural wastes but not pesticides, plastics or other non-organic material
  - Liquid petroleum fueled smudge pots to prevent frost damage to crops.
  - Ceremonial or celebratory bonfires
  - Disposal of a flag or religious item
  - Burning on an emergency basis of explosive or other dangerous or contraband by police, etc
  - Prescribed burns performed according to state regulations
  - Fire training with such restrictions on use of acquired structures
  - Individual open fires to control plant & animal disease outbreaks as approved by DEC upon request by Commissioner of Agriculture & Markets
  - Open fires as necessary to control invasive plant & insect speciesLeaf burning is now illegal. Fred informed that DEC Officer is issuing warnings at this time. There will be a fine imposed in the future.

- Clinton & Two Rod Road Status- Fred informed that Kenny Kelchlin's property is being prepared for his plan to move his current business from the corner of Townline and Clinton to his property closer to Two Rod Road on Clinton (North/west side.)
- Temporary Portable **Canopies\EZ-ups not to exceed 200sq ft** ó Fred informed that the Planning Board is recommending to the Town Board that these units have a 30-day limit. If a homeowner plans to have such a unit for more than 30 days, a permit must be secured from the Building Inspector. **Existing Canopies\EZ-ups will be grandfathered.**
- Radio Tower ó Fred informed that a Christian radio station wants to erect a **450 foot tall** broadcast tower on the landfill on Eastwood Road. It was determined that the ground on the landfill is unstable. New proposal is to lease on the Keiffer land next door to the landfill at 2548 Eastwood Road. The fire company could hang **its radio** equipment from this tower at 50 feet high.
- WNYLC ó Roger reminded that people are needed to monitor property under the conservancy. If interested contact Roger or the Conservancy.

7:19 pm Ron Unverdorben, Highway Superintendent joined meeting.

#### IV. Unfinished Business

- Town Recycling ó Ron Unverdorben provided following statistics to help members decide next step in a recycling program:

Cardboard	8.77 tons; \$432 for recycling; \$290 to dump
Steel (mix)	31.25 tons; \$3017 for recycling; \$1032 to dump
Glass (clear & colored)	43.8 tons; \$1285 for recycling; \$1445 to dump
Newspaper	195.5 tons; \$1955 for recycling; \$6452 to dump
Tires (passenger)	144; \$216; \$93 to dump
Tires (truck)	12; \$48

Ron informed that our town garbage goes to an incinerator (Covonta) in Niagara Falls (not a landfill) and this generates electricity.

Ron suggested that we focus on recycling glass and newspaper because of the larger volume.

Members discussed educating the community regarding the details of recycling these household items. Fred suggested CAB use its money in its budget to do a mass mailing. Discussion ensued regarding possibility of buying recycling containers with CAB budget as well. These containers can range from specially made with "Recycle" verbiage or simply 5 gallon pails.

Ron U. provided following recycling details that CAB would like to highlight in a mass mailing:

- All glass bottles can be recycled. Any colors are acceptable, from clear to brown, green, blue, etc. Glass bottles accepted are from all food/beverage. Glass that is not accepted is window, door, light bulbs. Bottles must be clean with lids removed. Labels do not need to be removed. Any metal or plastic lids or rings must be removed from glass bottles.

- If a household has a plastic bin that is used every week to put glass bottles out to the road for recycling/collection, the Sanitation Dept. will return that bin to the roadside for the household to reuse for this purpose.
- Sanitation Dept requests that all newspaper be tied or put in paper bags for recycling. DO NOT put in plastic bags. It is OK if the newspaper gets wet.
- If a household has a plastic bin that is used every week to put newspapers out to the road for recycling/collection, the Sanitation Dept. will return that bin to the roadside for the household to reuse for this purpose.

Pat asked if the Highway Dept looked into possibly collecting leaves because of the new state law prohibiting leaf open burning. Ron informed that his dept had researched this possibility and determined that leaf collecting is cost prohibitive. Ron informed that same trucks used for snow removal would be used for leaf collection. These trucks would need separate equipment connected to them for leaf collection. If snow were in the forecast, then this equipment would need to be dismantled which would cost time and man hours and money. Residents can mulch leaves using lawn mower/tractor, compost, or take leaves to the town recycling center.

- Town Park Path Survey ó Results: 70 signatures for YES; 2 signatures for NO. Fred informed that this Phase I to the Park Master Plan was NOT included in the town budget. CAB members have been working on this Park Master Plan with Phases since 2007. CAB members hope this Phase I will be considered again and put back into the budget next year. CAB will revisit this issue in future meetings.

8:30 pm Ron Unverdorben excused himself from meeting

V. Adjournment

Roger requested a motion to adjourn. Jim Hopper moved and Debbie Beats seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm.

AYES: 6      NAYES: 0      MOTION: Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Blarr  
CAB Clerk