

Canaan Planning Board
Approved Minutes
Meeting of September 24, 2009

Andrew Musz called the meeting to order at 7:07.

Members present: Andrew Musz, John Bergeron, Joe Frazier, Pete Gibson (alternate), Tim Lewis, and Chuck Townsend. Chair Andrew Musz appointed Pete Gibson to Dan Ware's seat.

Chuck Townsend read the minutes from the meeting on September 10, 2009. Motion to accept as amended was made by Tim Lewis, seconded by Joe Frazier and unanimously approved.

Correspondence:

Grafton County Conservation District – announcement of Fall Tour, Tues. Oct 13.

DES – Copy of application received for 20' culvert for driveway over unnamed stream.

Routine Business:

Chair Andrew Musz reviewed DES document "Regulation Requirements for New Construction" for applicability to use of old septic system on Ed Lary property on Rt. 118. The regulations suggest that the property will not require a new septic system, but will require a new septic plan and pit and perc tests to demonstrate that a replacement septic system could be installed. Andy Musz will write Ed Lary informing him of the requirement.

7:30 Public Hearing, continued from September 10:

Andrew Musz reopened the hearing on tree cutting on Beech Cobble and Gould Roads, continued from September 10. Philip Ferneau and Dave Barney were present representing abutting landowners.

Road agent Robert Scott had marked trees he believes should be removed from both roads and from Upper Gates Road. Pete Gibson read a letter that Steve Ward had written to convey his reactions. The letter stated that Steve found a single marked tree on Gould Road and a single marked tree on Beech Cobble Road that merit removal for public safety reasons.

Dave Barney stated that he had counted 91 marked trees, and that he agrees that only the two trees identified by Steve Ward should be removed.

Philip Ferneau noted that many healthy and scenic trees had been marked, and that the two large trees that the others thought should be removed are not in areas of the road prone to excessively muddy conditions. He requested that the Planning Board assess the need for removal of each tree individually.

Andy Musz suggested that we continue the meeting until October 8, and come to a decision after all Planning Board members have had the opportunity to assess the situation at each tree. He noted that ditching and grading the roads do not require a public hearing or Planning Board approval, providing that they do not damage trees or stone walls. Perhaps ditching could help dry roads without the need for tree removal.

Pete Gibson said that guidelines for removal of trees should be subject to judgment because conditions are so varied.

7:55 Public Hearing Closed:

Public hearing scheduled for 7:30 on October 8 for discussion of tree removal along Upper Gates Road will provide final input before rendering decisions on all three roads.

8:00 Preliminary Completeness Review:

Andrew Musz went through the checklists for a Burke Ridge LLC application for minor subdivision of 100 acres abutting Gould Road. Chuck Townsend moved that the application was sufficiently complete for a public hearing. Tim Lewis provided the second and the motion was unanimously approved. The hearing is scheduled for Oct 22 at 7:15.

8:15 Other Business:

Andrew Musz nominated Steve Ward as chair for this year's CIP committee, subject to his acceptance. Joe Frazier provided the second and the nomination was approved.

Planning Board members reviewed the forms contained in Appendix C of the *Subdivision Regulations* and those incorporated in the *Planning Board Rules of Procedure*. Redundant forms were identified. John Bergeron will remove all forms from the draft revised *Subdivision Regulations* and incorporate all current forms into the *Rules of Procedure*. Forms will also be made individually accessible from the Canaan Town website.

8:40 Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Townsend, seconded by Joe Frazier and passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Townsend, Acting Scribe