

**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF CHARLEMONT
April 3, 2013**

Members Present:

Neal Lear, Alan Booth,
Doug Forbes, Tom Cashin,
Larry Mann, Tim Eichholz,
Ruth Cannavo

Members Absent:

(none)

Others Present:

Mark Stinson
Phil Banks

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Discussion:

Mark Stinson reviewed procedures regarding highway bridge projects. He noted that if such projects are funded by bonds, they are exempt from the Wetlands Protection Act, and therefore subject to review by DEP only. However, erosion and sedimentation control are still required. We should observe these projects and report to Mark if negligence is observed. He also recommended the use of Google Earth in identifying resources areas near permit sites. We reminded Mark that we typically make site visits with two members for all permit requests. He encouraged us to do follow-up visits on past permits, and reminded us that the Governor had issued a 4-year extension on all permits, making them active for a total of 7 years. Mark then led the Commission in a game of “wetlands jeopardy” to test and refresh our knowledge of facts and regulations.

Phil Banks attended in order to discuss repairs to his driveway off of Zoar Road. Mark observed that a permit was not necessary since the work amounted to repairs to an existing structure. He did encourage Mr. Banks not to use “spray-on” asphalt, as this tends to be ineffective and results in contaminated runoff to water resources.

Mail was reviewed.

Business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

D.J. Forbes