

**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
TOWN OF CHARLEMONT  
March 5, 2014**

**Members Present**

Alan Booth, Neal Lear,  
Douglas Forbes,  
Ruth Cannavo,  
Tim Eichholz

**Members Absent**

Tom Cashin

**Others Present**

Mike Walsh  
Eric Dean  
Jon Schaefer  
Melissa Cody (Tighe & Bond)  
Mark Stinson

**The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM**

The Commission reviewed a presentation by Jon Schaefer and Melissa Cody of plans to construct an alpine coaster at Berkshire East. This included plans that highlighting buffer zones and resource areas (BVW), and a demonstration of how the structure would be installed. The Commission voted unanimously to make a negative determination (#3) regarding this project, with the condition that erosion control measures may be bypassed if cutting of trees is done while snow cover exists.

Mike Walsh presented plans to install a dry hydrant on West Oxbow Road in hopes of providing homes there and on Hawk Hill Road with emergency water access in case of fire. Eric Dean and Mark Stinson provided considerable input on the matter. There followed a discussion of other neighborhoods in Charlemont that might benefit from dry hydrants, and a possible field day later in the spring to examine potential installation sites, on Zoar Road and near Mohawk Park.

Eric Dean presented plans for the construction of a greenhouse and barn adjacent to the playing fields behind Hawlemont School to serve the new agricultural curriculum there. These would be more than 200 feet from Mill Brook. Mark Stinson observed that an NOI would be necessary as this area is in the floodplain of the Deerfield. The Commission voted unanimously to issue an NOI (#2).

**Business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

*D.J. Forbes*