

Town of Pendleton
Conservation Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 6:00 pm
Town Hall Cafeteria

I. **Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairwoman Sara Siracuse.** Members in attendance: Sara Siracuse, Amanda Irons-Rindfleisch, Annmarie Reeb and Victor Lemieux. Andrew Harrison – Also attended but left early due to a personal emergency. No public.

II. **Amendments, Additions and Deletions to Agenda - None**

III. **Approve Minutes of October 11, 2018**

Motion A. Irons-Rindfleisch; Seconded V. Lemieux; Opposed none; Motion carried.

IV. **Public Input** – None.

V. **Correspondence** – Emails, etc.

A. Harrison informed that Cornell Forestry, P. Smallage had emailed him on a webinar on the Southern Pine Beetle, which is an invasive species that is spreading. He will provide the information to members via email.

S. Siracuse provided two ERSI newsletters that were in our mail box. A. Irons-Rindfleisch will add it to the resource binder.

10/18/18 – Land Use Training from Town Clerk - S. Siracuse registered but unable to attend. No other registrations.

10/31/18 – Received request for a member to attend 11/28/18 Tonawanda Creek Watershed Committee from Niagara County Soil & Water. Members requested that we request additional information such as actual location and time of meeting. A. Reeb to send request and provide information to members by email.

S.Siracuse - Letters of Interest for Conservation seat to be sent to the Town Clerk no later than 12/15/18. Information only available on Town website. Though there was a discrepancy in number of terms to be served, Town Board clarified, verbally, that the resolution for 2018 was only for a One Year Term and current members would need to reapply.

VI. **Unfinished Business:**

Chapter 13 and Board vs. Council – Status

Reviewed email sent to Town Board regarding an option and the Board's responses, which will change this board to an Advisory Council as of December 10, 2018, pending a public hearing on the Chapter 13 Town Code revisions and Town Board vote.

Chapter 13 and Board vs. Council – Status, cont'd.

S. Siracuse has been following up, via phone, with Mr. Kallner, Foil Officer for NYS DEC regarding any records of maps, inventory list, required annual reports or any other documents sent to them regarding the establishment of the Town of Pendleton Conservation Board. Though no documents have been found to date, S. Siracuse is hoping to wrap this up by 12/31/18.

Conservation Board Budget of 2019 – approved 11/5/18:

S. Siracuse informed the members that our budget requests were approved, including the request for a Seven (7) member board. Only one item was changed: the \$600 annual stipend will continue to be paid as \$50.00 per meeting.

VII. Current Business

Planning Board Member – John Laverich:

S. Siracuse met with Mr. Laverich on 10/23/2018 to hopefully obtain the board's inventory list and maps. None were found. Mr. Laverich did provide several items that he hoped the board could utilize, such as: Open Space Survey and Conserving Open Space in NY: 1992 and 1995, also the Town's Master Plan of 2010.

Also, they discussed green fees and park fees.

We would like to thank Mr. Laverich for all his assistance in helping our board.

Open Space Inventory

S. Siracuse received a list of parcels that are owned by the Town, County and State. The list is check marked if a deed is available or marked with a hyphen if the deed needs to be looked up a the county.

S. Siracuse informed that open spaces in subdivisions are considered deleted parcels if they paid a green fee or park fee.

A question was raised by V. Lemieux as to whether the Wendelville Social Club property is now owned by the Town. This will be looked into as no one knew if the purchase was approved by the Town Board, as this lot would be considered open space.

Open Space Mapping – No update.

Suggestions for Chapter 13 Code

The board members offered suggestions to provide to the Town Attorney for changes to the Chapter 13 Code. S. Siracuse and A. Reeb to work on this and email to Town

Suggestions for Chapter 13 Code, cont'd.

Attorney prior to the Town Board hearing. All members present were okay with this.

VIII. Board Member Discussion –

2018 Year End Report and Additions to Conservation Box

The Town Clerk will be notified by V. Lemieux, Budget Officer, of the amount to be paid to each member based on meetings attended, following the December 2018 meeting. Reminder that the special meeting in April 2018 was unpaid.

A. Reeb will provide the official records to the Town Clerk by the end of December 2018 and plans to work with the Chair, S. Siracuse. A. Reeb will email the Town Clerk to find out if records are preferred in digital or paper format. A jump drive will be used for digital documents.

2019 Membership -

A discussion was held on informing prior residents who expressed interest in sitting on the board. No consensus was reached on this issue.

A. Irons-Rindfleisch and A. Reeb both found that the Conservation Board is listed under Region 9 of the NYS Association of Conservation Commissions (copyright 2016).

Additionally, A. Irons-Rindfleisch receives newsletters from this commission and pointed out a topic on No Mow Zones which are utilized to prevent geese poop. There is a membership fee and this organization is a great resource for our board. A. Irons-Rindfleisch will continue to add this resource information to the resource binder she created for the Board.

A reference material was brought forward by V. Lemieux regarding the NYS Advisory Council Guide which A. Irons-Rindfleisch confirmed that it was in the resource binder.

IX. Expectations for Next Meeting –

S. Siracuse asked if we would like to do anything special for our last meeting. A. Reeb asked if we would like to have a holiday celebration with food. All agreed. A. Reeb will work on this and email members.

X. Adjournment at 7:55 pm

Motion V. Lemieux; Seconded A. Irons-Rindfleisch; Opposed none; Motion carried.

Prepared by:
Annmarie Reeb
Administrative Assistant