**Farm Plan Subcommittee**

June 9, 2008

Meeting called to order at 5:38 pm

Present: Courtney Bird, Chair  
Mary Schumacher  
Michelle West

Mr. Bird began the meeting by giving an overview of the process. The deadline for the Farm Plan is January 1, 2009. The role of the Commission is to ensure that the town’s goals are incorporated into the Farm Plan.

The goal of the Farm Plan Subcommittee is to compile input from town bodies and the public and to draft a brief, bulleted list of goals and timelines that will be incorporated into the Farm Plan by Don Liptack of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Mr. Bird noted that we have broad agreement that agricultural activities should be separated from the river and that the bogs will be farmed organically. The Subcommittee can articulate these goals, but does not have the expertise to write the details of the plan.

Sheryl Kozens-Long commented that one of the goals of any Farm Plan is to ensure that the farmer can keep farming the land. She noted that the Farm Plan is not a regulatory document.

The Subcommittee agreed to notify town boards and officials immediately that the committee is seeking input on the goals that should be incorporated into the Farm Plan. Notice will also be posted on the Commission’s web site. Mr. Bird noted that a reporter for the Enterprise was present, so the public would be aware of the process as well.

The Subcommittee agreed upon the following timeline for implementation of the initial stages of the process (*Note: See revised schedule at bottom of page)*:

- June 30 – deadline for public comment*
- July 9 – draft list of goals available for public review*
- July 14 – subcommittee meets to take and discuss comments on draft list of goals*
- July 21 – revised draft list of goals submitted to the Commission for review*
- August 6 – discussion of draft list of goals by the Commission*

The Subcommittee noted that one or more additional working meetings might be needed in the process of drafting the initial and revised documents.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm.

Minutes compiled by Karen Wilson.

*NOTE: The Above deadlines have been revised as of 6/18. They now are:

- July 9 – deadline for public comment
- July 16 – draft list of goals available for public review
- July 21 – subcommittee meets to take and discuss comments on draft list of goals
- July 28 – revised draft list of goals submitted to the Commission for review
- August 6 – discussion of draft list of goals by the Commission*