

TOWN OF GORHAM  
CONSERVATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
May 1, 2007

The Town of Gorham Conservation Board met on Tuesday, May 1, 2007, at 7:00 PM at the Gorham Town Hall. Present were, Chairman Steve Horrocks, Andrew Hoover, John Foust, John Frank, Bill Johnson, Gene Hermenet, Fred Lightfoote, Maria Rudzinski and Sue Yarger.

Maria Rudzinski from Ontario County Planning was present and presented the board with maps showing the farmer owned and farmer friendly agricultural properties in the Town. There are still a few parcels marked idle that need to be identified whether they are farmer owned or farmer friendly parcels.

Maria presented a draft Agricultural Enhancement Plan for the boards review. The board believes that dairy farming is the predominant agricultural land use with some field crops, vegetable and livestock operations.

Maria asked the board for the number of home farm operations in the Town of Gorham. Out of those farms operations how many are Mennonite operated? The board will try and have this number at the June 5, 2007, meeting.

Filing for a grant for land preservation was briefly discussed. Maria stated that September 17, 2007 is the grant application deadline and explained what has to be done before an application can be made for a grant.

The Planning Board reviewed the draft of the Conservation Board powers and duties and would also like the Conservation Board to look at applications with steep slopes over 15% and applications with forested areas and scrubbed forested areas.

The Conservation Board discussed looking at steep slopes and wondered why the Planning Board wanted the Conservation Board to look at applications with steep slopes. With the amount of projects and things that the Conservation Board is going to have to do, unless the Planning Board had a good reason why they should look at steep slopes they do not feel that they should look at applications with steep slopes.

Mr. Johnson presented and reviewed with the board the handout from the New York State Association of Conservation Commissions web site.

Mr. Frank made a motion to approve the April 4, 2007, minutes. Mr. Hermenet seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

A special meeting was set for May 15, 2007, at 7:00 PM. The next regular meeting was set for June 5, 2007, at 7:00 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27.

Sue Yarger  
Secretary