

Bolton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: February 11, 2008
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Town Office: then moved to Smilie School
Members Present: Tony Barbagallo, Tom Longstreth
Guests Present: David Parot, Wright Preston

No key was found for the Town Office. At 6:10, Tammy Coe and Tom Longstreth decided to reschedule the meeting since it was too cold to meet outside and the Bolton Store did not have the key. Tammy then left. Shortly after, Tony Barbagallo arrived at the same time as Wright Preston. Tony suggested the meeting be moved to Smilie School where he had just been.

Tom Longstreth convened the meeting without a quorum at Smilie school at 6:30.

1. Discussed proposed Sarah Holbrook Property sale. Reviewed statement opposing sale drafted by Tony Barbagallo.
2. Discussed problem of bus idling: David Parot described the extent of the bus idling problem. Both school buses and tour buses frequently idle their motors at the resort, often for hours at a time. David noted one incident when a tour bus idled for 48 hours straight. The health problem of diesel particulates is significant and inconsistent with the experience sought by visitors and residents of the mountain. The environmental damage from burning fossil fuels is significant. Idling is inconsistent with school policies, however, bus drivers routinely violate their own policies away from schools. David Parot has contacted the Bolton Valley Resort asking them to enact an idling ban. He is not satisfied with their response and has contacted the town to have the town pass an anti-idling ordinance. The CC was sympathetic to the problem but unsure of remedy.

Next Steps: Tom Longstreth will invite Bolton Valley Resort owners to attend a meeting of CC to discuss Bus Idling as well as other issues of concern: hermit thrush, bus idling, trail construction and permits, ditch parking lots excavator in brook.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2008 at the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Longstreth, Chair and Acting Secretary