

Danby Conservation Advisory Council—Draft Minutes 8/27/12

Members present: Tom Gavin, Jake Brenner, Joel Gagnon, Mary Woodsen, Dan Klein

Guests present: Ronda Roaring

Minutes by Dan Klein

The July minutes were approved unanimously, as amended.

We adopted a protocol for non-member participation in meetings. This is the same protocol as used by the Planning Board. The motion was moved by Jake and seconded by Dan. It was approved unanimously. The protocol:

As the Danby Conservation Advisory Council, we want to know what residents have to say. The time set aside for this is at the beginning of the meeting during 'Privilege of the Floor.' This time to speak is a privilege--not a right--and while we realize that residents are sometimes upset about an issue, we need to insist that the tone and content of your remarks be civil and respectful. If these simple guidelines are not adhered to, you will be asked to sit down and remain silent. Once our meeting moves past the Privilege of the Floor section, we are still interested in what you have to say, but please be aware that your comments or questions during this part of the meeting can be entertained only if time permits, so please wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking. If you wish to comment or ask a question during the regular part of our meeting, we ask that your comments pertain to the subject at hand, and again we insist that they be civil and respectful.

We then continued to go through the Finger Lakes Land Trust's easement and made the following adjustments:

3.01 c – move definition of 'sustainable agriculture' to the top of the section

5.03 (V) – add the word 'significantly': '...does not significantly diminish or impair...'

5.03 (VIII) – moved 'significant' back 5 words to be in front of 'mortality' instead of 'degradation'.

5.04 – eliminated everything starting with 'If Holder...'. In other words, we can require them to come up with an ag plan that we approve.

6.04 b inserted 'owners may not...' In other words, we can require a forest management plan. In the case of commercial harvest, we do require a forest management plan, including a harvest management plan.

6.04 c – eliminate this except for possibly section V. We will examine section V later. Best Management Practices probably will have to be modified or defined.

6.04 d – eliminate

We will begin on Article VII next meeting

We had a discussion of the Howland Rd. subdivision with no consensus reached.

We discussed more criteria for our (Jake's) project to rank land parcels in an effort to measure and prioritize conservation value. Some suggestions of criteria to add: remoteness, residents' suggestions ('favorites'), road frontage, ag soils.

Jake has a potential source for the donation of a digital projector. We voted to recommend to the Town Board to accept this donation on behalf of the Town of Danby, with the caveat that replacements are expensive. Joel moved the motion, Tom seconded, and it passed unanimously.