

Earth Removal By-Law Review Committee

Meeting Minutes for

February 24, 2009

The first meeting of the Earth Removal By-Law Review Committee was held on February 24, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 101 at the Town House, 26 Evergreen Street, Kingston. All appointed members were present; Rui David Santos representing the Agricultural Commission, Jean Landis Naumann representing the Board of Selectmen, Dennis Randall representing the Planning Board, and Gary P. Langenbach representing the Conservation Commission. There being no appointment from the Board of Selectmen, the citizen at large position was vacant .

The Earth Removal By-Law Review Committee opted for an informal meeting style based upon consensus. No chair or clerk was named by the committee and Dennis Randall volunteered to prepare a set of minutes of the Committee's first meeting.

There was a general discussion of the earth removal bylaw and historical problems with lax or inconsistent enforcement and application of the by-law's provisions. The board reviewed and discussed redrafting the entire Earth Removal Bylaw. It was the consensus of the committee to keep the existing by-law more or less intact and to focus efforts on the section of the bylaw dealing with earth removal for agricultural purposes.

There was a general consensus that the annual exemption for amount of earth material which can be removed for agricultural purposes should be increased from 1,000 cubic yards to not more than 10,000 cubic yards, provided that language is added to the by-law to prohibit the sale or transportation of any excavated earth for non-agricultural purposes.

The committee agreed to meet again at 7PM on March 11, 2009. Members were invited to submit in writing any modifications or changes they would like the board to consider.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis N. Randall