Minutes: Russell Township Zoning Commission
Russell Town Hall
August 20, 2007

Present: Bruce Murphy, Vice-Chairman
Elizabeth Rader
Eileen Rogers
Donna Weiss Carson
Diana Steffen, Secretary

Richard E. Snyder, Chairman, and Ric Machnics, Zoning Inspector, were both absent with apologies.

The Vice-Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2007 – *Mrs. Rogers made the motion to approve the minutes as submitted, Ms. Rader seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

RIPARIAN SETBACKS – The Commission reviewed a draft that Mrs. Steffen had prepared for amendment. It agreed to keep the section listing permitted buildings, structures and uses within a riparian setback without a zoning certificate, and to allow those structures in Section 4.6.C of the Zoning Resolution that currently do not require a zoning certificate, also to be located within a riparian setback. The Commission agreed that such structures have little impact on the ground and to restrict their location would be an unnecessary burden for a homeowner. Mr. Murphy had prepared language to replace the first sentence of paragraph F of the draft to tie in those items in Section 4.6.C.

Mrs. Steffen asked a number of questions regarding wording in the latest draft. The Commission resolved these and other issues. Mrs. Rogers voiced concern that the regulation appeared to include intermittent streams, which she felt would be very restrictive. Other members said only those watercourses with a defined bed and bank were included. Mr. Murphy said Carmella Shale of the Geauga Soil & Water Conservation District had allayed his earlier concerns regarding the streams that would be included in the regulation, and he recommended Mrs. Rogers meet with her to discuss this issue.

Mrs. Steffen will make the changes agreed to at this meeting and then send the proposed amendment to David Dietrich for his informal review. She will also send it to Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells and Carmella Shale.

OTHER BUSINESS – There being no other business, Ms. Rader made the motion to adjourn, Ms. Weiss Carson seconded and the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diana Steffen Date Bruce Murphy Date
Secretary Vice-Chairman
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