

**Meeting of the Planning Board
October 7, 2002**

Attending: Kurt Clason, Roland Denby, Sue Dunlap, Teresa Lowell, Tim Neill, Dwayne Woodsome

Also Attending: Members of the Comprehensive Plan and Conservation Committees, Eric Herrle, Paul Verrell, Genevieve Pence (the Nature Conservancy), Donald Cameron (ME Department of Conservation), and Barbara Charry (ME Audubon Society), Kate Albert (SMRPC), Wendy Carter

This evening's meeting opened with introductions by Sue Dunlap. The Comprehensive Plan and Conservation Committees were invited to this presentation because the material discussed significantly overlapped their areas of interest and impacted planning. Barbara Charry explained that the Beginning With Habitat program has been a joint project with a number of departments such as the Inland fisheries and Wildlife, Maine Audubon Society, Maine Department of Conservation, Maine Coast Heritage Trust and The Nature Conservancy. It is a joint response by the above organizations to sprawl with a concern toward habitat and wildlife.

Understanding that development will take place throughout the state but focusing attention specifically in York County and Waterboro, this program attempts to direct planning efforts so that the waterways, plants and wildlife will be marginally impacted. Construction of roads and homes remove habitat and develop barriers that reduces territories and compounds stress of animal populations. There have been considerable numbers of rare, endangered and threatened animal and plant life documented in and around Waterboro. Ms. Charry identified the following as points to consider when conserving open space:

- Size
- Shape
- Proximity
- Barriers
- Corridors
- Habitat type

Speakers indicated that not all land area is quality space for conservation. The use of slides aided her presentation. Three sets of large format maps and one binder of written information and other supporting material have been given to the town for public and committee use and will be located in the Code Enforcement Office. Digital data will be made available to the land trusts upon request.

A question and answer session followed the presentation. It was indicated by several in attendance that communities and towns adjacent to Waterboro need to accept responsibility in growth and development. Our planning committees and boards may wish to include these towns in discussions and plans at some point. A number of

suggestions were aired but strong enforcement by the Code Enforcement Officer will be essential.

A public presentation by the Francis Small Heritage Land Trust is currently being planned for this fall at the Waterboro Town Hall.

The meeting formally adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Carter, Secretary

This project was completed on grant monies and was not funded by