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**Draft Minutes November 14, 2006
Environmental Committee**

Present: Christine Lema-Foley
Gary Menchen

Absent excused: Harvey Weber
Kim Carlo

Absent: Joseph Fabio
Domenic Sinisi

Town Board Liaisons Present: Linda Gabaccia
Robert Sacks

Audience: Diane Cinque

There were not enough members present to constitute a quorum and so no official committee business was conducted although there was informal discussion.

Diane Cinque inquired when the minutes from the last meeting would be posted and Councilwoman Gabaccia indicated she would type up her individual notes and submit those as there was no secretary present at that meeting. Councilman Sacks offered a typed copy of his notes for submission also.

A brief critique of RJ Reynold presentation was begun with Christine Lema-Foley expressing the opinion that the talk had been very interesting and informative. A discussion was initiated suggesting that the scope of the groundwater study needs to be defined. Councilman Sacks emphasized quality. Councilwoman Gabaccia said that quantitative analysis was also important to protect assets from developmental pressures.

Councilman Sacks raised the question of the Committee's involvement as regards the Housing Resources Development. Councilwoman Gabaccia said that we would be unable to weigh in on that project as the Committee has no review powers and the Planning Board is currently designated lead agency. She also indicated however that the Environmental Committee would seek to provide information which would be useful to the Town's future planning needs.

A future meeting involving the other towns of Southern Columbia County was discussed to see if there was any interest in being involved in the groundwater study. Potential information resources were noted with Gary Menchen bringing up the Coalition of Lakes. Other sources

mentioned were Fran Martino, DEC, EPA, and the Cornell Cooperative Extension. Christine offered to get copies of the manual from the EPA called "Community Culture and the Environment: A Guide to Understanding a Sense of Place". It is hoped that the Committee may use this guide to define the scope of its investigations and future projects. Christine will get a copy for every member of the Committee. Councilman Sacks provided a copy of the 1951 Groundwater Study for Southern Columbia County. A copy of this report will be provided to each member of the Committee at the next meeting.

It was suggested that Councilwoman Gabaccia should contact Fran Martino and see if she would be available to speak at the January meeting. Councilwoman Gabaccia will also make a list of all towns in Southern Columbia County and she and Councilman Sacks will attempt to contact them regarding potential involvement in a groundwater study. Councilman Sacks will also begin seeking speakers for the January meeting.