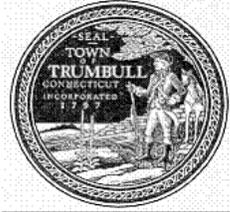


**TOWN OF TRUMBULL  
CONNECTICUT**



Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, November 14, 2012  
7:00pm  
Nichols Room

**Present:** Scot Kerr, Acting Chairman; Joanne Parsons; Dale Parsons; Don Watson, Jim Sullivan; Kate Bruzinski

**Absent:** Mary Ellen Lemay

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by the Acting Chairman.

**Past Minutes:** It was moved by Don Watson, seconded by Joanne Parsons to approve the minutes of October 24, 2012 as posted. Approved unanimously.

**Administrative**

Calendar Updates:

1. The special meeting with Jamie Bratt has not been rescheduled.
2. There is a WPCA public hearing on 11/20 but topics for discussion are not known.
3. IWWC meets on 12/4.
4. Parks & Rec meets on 12/10.
5. CACIWC meeting is 11/17.

**Project Updates**

1. Old Mine Plantings – no update until spring.
2. IWWC Activities – Joanne Parson attended the IWWC meeting and presented recommendations as agreed on the Old Dike application. Pinewood Lake representatives were in attendance but did not speak. She felt that the IWWC did pick up the points that were being made and felt the distribution of the information was very organized. She felt they considered the comments made by the Conservation Commission as supportive. Goals of the commission should include influencing future generations with regard to these types of decisions. Don Walsh offered to prepare a briefing regarding these types of land decisions as they effect the lake. It was also suggested that that information be prepared on water quality and how the land owners can be stewards. This information is in relation to the population's health. Joanne Parsons will work with the lake association to put out an article in their newsletter. It was noted that the IWWC does not have a staff person that reviews the applications and makes recommendations. It was suggested that a discussion with John Marsilio or Frank Smerglino regarding due diligence should be held.
3. Tree Ordinance – Joanne Parsons noted that she has not heard back from Jamie Bratt regarding the proposed meeting to discuss this ordinance. This ordinance needs to be supported by the other departments, boards and commissions in the town before it is presented to the Town

Council for approval. Planning and Zoning is a key component. Don Watson suggested that this ordinance could also be made part of the Natural Resource Inventory and recommendations for the Plan of Conservation and Development.

4. Plan of Natural Resources and Open Space – Don Watson discussed a draft policy for the Trumbull Plan of Conservation and Development that is currently being updated. This policy would be proposed by the Conservation Commission for inclusion regarding the town's natural and environmental resources. Lengthy discussion of goals and supporting information was held. Scot Kerr noted this document should be placed on the website for review as well as Don's power point program. This information can also be placed on the Facebook page by Jim Sullivan. Joanne Parsons and Don Watson met with Jamie Bratt to exchange suggestions. The state currently has a draft of the Plan of Conservation and Development and once this is approved, it becomes a plan/guideline for the towns. You must have an approved POCD to receive funding. The state is making changes to encourage towns to comply. The new plan could include smart growth principles. Mixed use and density were discussed noting that this type of plan is the way communities are moving towards. Discussion was held regarding retrofitting suburbia. It was noted that information regarding lawn care, composting, etc. could be beneficial to Jamie in her development of the POCD. This type of information could be added to the tree ordinance to give enhance public education. Additional discussion was held regarding the Conservation Commission's policy for the POCD. An additional suggestion was made to include birding by Kate Bruzinski. It was noted that these proposed goals of the Conservation Commission be distributed to interested individuals who are knowledgeable in these areas to gather ideas. Timeline of the POCD was discussed. Don Watson noted that the commission should have their portion completed by January or February to give to Jamie. Several individuals were recommended to be included in discussions and it was agreed to invite them to the December meeting as well as opening the meeting up to anyone interested in the topics to be discussed. The commission is looking for input from the community. Kate was requested to work on the species aspect which will be additional information for Jamie. Don Watson will write up a draft invitation to everyone announcing the December meeting.
5. Materials Management – Scot Kerr met with Robin Bennett this week regarding the collection of data for recycling. This is a work in process to collect pertinent information that can be analyzed.
6. Sewer Cross Country Remediation Plans – No update.

### **New Business**

1. Endangered Species Initiatives/Remediation Signage – Kate Bruzinski spoke with Dmitri Paris regarding both projects. She noted that she would like to place a barn owl house at Twin Brooks and possibly an egret platform. To move forward with the projects, specifications would need to be presented. Kate discussed planning a town wide initiative in the parks for endangered species but it was felt that open space properties would be better suited. Various ideas, including a brush pile, were discussed. Kate has written the signage language which will be reviewed by Dmitri Paris who has requested it to be user friendly, explaining the remediation process and wildlife preservation. Kate also would like to speak with the Parks Department to discuss owl boxes. Placement of the boxes will be determined. A walk through of the area is planned to decide locations.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Don Watson moved, seconded by Joanne Parsons, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall, Clerk