

**TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT**



Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, October 1, 2014
7:00pm
Nichols Room, Town Hall

Present: Chairman, Mary Ellen Lemay; Commissioners Tim Coughlin, Joanne Parsons, Dale Parsons, Jim Sullivan and Don Watson

Also Present: Lars Jorgensen; Joanne and Doug Owens, and Joan Poarch (7:30 pm)

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

Past Minutes: It was moved by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Coughlin, to approve the minutes of June 4, 2014 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Calendar Updates

The following events were noted:

1. IWWC meeting on 10/7; Rivers Edge Homes are on the agenda. Discussion to follow regarding any potential recommendations for this application.
2. Invasive Plant Working Group at UConn – 10/7 -- \$55.00 fee.
3. UConn Land Use Academy – 10/9 and 10/29. Registration on line, no fee. Two separate programs; second builds on first.
4. Green Infrastructure Permitting Program – 10/16 -- \$155.00 fee.
5. Earthplace Bonfire Bash in Westport – 10/18.
6. CTAC Meeting – 10/20.
7. Conservation Commission meeting – 11/5.
8. CACIWC meeting – 11/15. Mrs. Lemay noted there is an article on the Old Mine Park project in the Summer 2014 publication.
9. Remaining Conservation Commission meetings are 11/19 and 12/17.

Commissioner Term Expirations

Mrs. Lemay noted the terms of Jim Sullivan, Tim Coughlin and Scot Kerr expire this year. Mr. Kerr had resigned from the commission previously and his position has not been filled. She has spoken with Mr. Herbst regarding these reappointments and the appointment of Lars Jorgenson to fill Mr. Kerr's position but has not heard any official announcements.

Briefings

1. DEEP #319 Grants – Old Mine Park Part 2 – DEEP sent the paperwork and it has been approved. Grant money is available until 2017. There is definitely time to complete this project. Mrs. Lemay noted Frank Smerglino and Dmitri Paris like to plan these projects in late winter/early

- spring. Mrs. Parsons noted this project is currently a concept and plans will need to be developed. Cost is approximately \$40,000 with a town match of about \$25,000.
2. IWWC Activities – Joanne and Doug Owens and Joan Poarch (entered at 7:30pm) were present at the meeting to discuss their concerns regarding the River Edge project currently before Planning and Zoning. Three areas of concern are flooding, erosion and blasting. Mrs. Lemay noted the Conservation Commission works in an advisory capacity, making science-based recommendations to IWWC and P&Z. Lengthy discussion was held regarding this application. Major discussion topics included the POCD, zero run off, flood maps, permeable pavement, traffic, buffer zones and Daniels Farm Road at the Pequonnock River. Mrs. Lemay suggested the Commission request Intervener Status for this project. This will allow the Commission to review the application and exercise jurisdiction over environment issues. All commissioners agreed to move forward with this application. Motion was made by Mr. Watson to proceed in developing a document containing the concerns the Commission has regarding this project; seconded by Mrs. Parsons. Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Parson was requested to make the presentation to the IWWC at their meeting on 10/7. Mrs. Lemay will pull up the necessary documents as discussed for reference.
 3. Twin Brooks Meadow Project – Update from Dmitri Paris has not been received. It was, however, noted that the areas has many invasive plants within the new planting possibly because it was not mowed lower as recommended. It was noted that this project was approved and the State of CT provided guidelines to be followed to meet the required outcome. It was agreed that the state guidelines for this project be obtained for review.
 4. GBRC Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan – No update.
 5. Regional POCD: “Reconnect 1 Region” – Mr. Watson attended this meeting. Greater Bridgeport needs to implement a regional POCD. He will circulate his information and concerns to the commissioners. Two public meetings only attracted 6-8 members of the public.
 6. Mrs. Lemay noted the Conservation Commission has been approached by the Parks Department regarding a concern with the maintenance of the athletic fields at Unity Park. Guidelines were discussed regarding the usage of pesticides and other chemicals on both school property and town property. It was suggested the commission acquire the existing practice, the proposed practice and then the Conservation Commission would be able to make recommendations. Mr. Coughlin noted it is best not to expose children to pesticides as this would have several health and safety issues for the town. Mr. Coughlin and Mr. Sullivan will work on these recommendations. Mrs. Lemay will request the information from Mr. Paris.
 7. Sewer easement on Dogwood Lake – Mrs. Lemay noted the wetland was not remediated properly. Mr. Smerglino has requested she make recommendations to rectify this situation. It was recommended by the Commission to add smaller plantings that would root in easier than to move existing plantings which are established.
 8. IWWC – Mr. Parsons noted there are two minor applications that need no comment.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Parsons, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10pm.
Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

These minutes are considered a draft until approved at the next meeting of the Conservation Commission.