

**TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT**



Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, December 17, 2014
7:30pm

Present: Chairman Mary Ellen Lemay; Commissioners Tim Coughlin, Lars Jorgensen, Jim Sullivan, Joanne Parsons (7:45pm) and Dale Parsons (7:45pm)

Absent: Commissioner Don Watson

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by Chairman Lemay.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Coughlin, to approve the minutes of November 5, 2014 as written. Unanimous.

Calendar Updates

1. 2015 meeting dates for the commission were approved. Meetings will be held the Wednesday before the IWWC meetings at 7:00 pm in the Nichols Room at Town Hall except for November and December which have been changed to accommodate the holidays.
2. Mr. Watson and Mrs. Lemay attended the Tree Management program sponsored by the CT Fund for the Environment. It reviewed rules and regulations and offered support to any town drafting a tree ordinance. It was felt the group was very fair in their presentation. They are also using Greenwich's tree management plan as a model.
3. Mrs. Lemay received a certificate online for an inland wetlands course.

Mrs. Parson and Mr. Parsons entered the meeting at 7:45 pm.

She noted, by law, every town must have an inland wetlands commission. This course was sponsored through Central CT University and they will open another session of the course to the public after March 15, 2015.

Briefings

1. DEEP #319 Grants – No update.
2. IWWC Activities – Discussion was held regarding the Daniels Farm Road project. It was noted the town submitted several questions and there was insufficient time to review prior to the meeting. The group Protecting Trumbull is working with the town on this project. Discussion

was held regarding the property being developed on Booth Hill Road. This property has received a zoning variance. The attorney for the developer is looking to donate open space to the town on part of the property to eliminate any questions about the wetlands on the property. This could be used as a model of approaching the various committees and commissions regarding property development. This can be considered the first open space subdivision in the town. It was noted the POCD and other documents are influential in making committees and commissions aware of the environmental aspects of various applications. Each member of the Conservation Commission will be receiving a copy of the POCD to use as a reference in environmental matters. It was felt the project on Daniels Farm Road could benefit from the direction taken by the Booth Hill Road developers.

3. Mrs. Lemay approached Mr. Paris regarding attending the commission meeting to discuss various matters but did not receive a reply.

4. Rails to Trails project on Quarry Road is moving along. The trail now has asphalt and a split rail fence. The bridge has been redone and there is permeable asphalt adjacent to the Pequonnock River. A buffer is being planted along the river. It was noted the Conservation Commission should look at what is being done as there is a Pequonnock River Plan and whatever is done, needs to follow the plan which was approved by the towns. Trees removed have been replanted. It was suggested that John Marsillio be contacted for a meeting on site to review the planting plans. Discussion was held regarding the DOT portion of the trail which will go over the Merritt Parkway. Mrs. Lemay will request a copy of the full plan from John Marsillio for review.

5. Regional POCD – This is finished and on-line at the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council website. This is closely linked to the POCD and PRI.

New Discussion

1. Mrs. Lemay and Mrs. Parsons attended the CACIWC meeting. No new information to share.
2. Mr. Coughlin asked if the Commission had a project for the environmental studies students at the high school that might be pertinent in the spring. It was suggested the Rails to Trails project could be monitored by the students and progress reports given to the commission. It was also noted water testing in the Pequonnock is underway. The students may be interested in researching the hot spots found in the report and trying to determine the origin of the problem.
3. Terms of the commissioners were discussed. Mrs. Lemay will be looking into the reappointments.
4. Turf management – no response has been received from Mr. Paris on this request. The Commission would like to see the management plans for the spring. Discussion was held regarding crumb rubber and it was noted the state says it is safe.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Coughlin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

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