

**TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT**



**Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, February 24, 2016
7:00 pm
Nichols Room**

Present: Chairman Mary Ellen Lemay; Commissioners Joanne Parsons (entered at 7:37 pm), Dale Parsons (entered at 7:37 pm), Kim DeCorpo, Richard Post, Lars Jorgensen and Tim Coughlin (entered at 7:37pm)

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

Past Minutes: Motion was made by Mr. Post, seconded by Mrs. Lemay, to approve the minutes of December 2, 2015 as written. Approved unanimously.

Mrs. Lemay noted she went before the Board of Finance for the annual budget. The budget for the Commission covers attendance at seminars for the commissioners. Mrs. Lemay also distributed to the Board of Finance a summary sheet regarding the activities of the Commission for 2015.

Mrs. Lemay explained how a project or information comes before the Commission. She noted some discussions are a result of the IWWC agenda. The Conservation Commission makes recommendations if warranted. Various projects have been reviewed with some resulting in a redesign. Also outside entities can be used for more formal recommendations. The Commissioners walk certain properties with the Engineering Department to understand the project being done.

The Watershed Plan was completed in 2009 for the Pequonnock River for Monroe, Trumbull and Bridgeport. Each group has completed small projects within their communities.

DEEP 319 funding for a water project within the watershed was received by Trumbull to complete a plan for the Long Hill Green. Don Watson, Joanne and Dale Parsons and Jamie Bratt worked on redesigning the green to capture the water before it goes into the storm drain. This will reduce the water going down the storm drain and also filter the water. It was done in part with permeable pavement, tree pits, and a rain garden. It is a demonstration project. Signage is expected to be included on the green to explain the project to the public.

DEEP 319 funding was also received for the Old Mine Park Part 2 LID project. Mrs. Lemay was unsure who the town's point person would be now that Mrs. Bratt is no longer with the town. Question was asked whether anything will be done on the other side of the water to get rid of the geese. Mrs. Lemay noted that if a riparian buffer was placed on that side, over time the geese might leave. She noted this is

the second part of the project and is on the town schedule. Deadline is 2017.

Tree Management Plan was discussed. This is the Park Department's plan to manage the health of the State trees on town property and includes a new plan for replanting. This plan will be done on the main streets. The tree inventory is also a part of the plan. Trees on private property were not included but the town has other ways, through project review in committees, to monitor tree removal in those instances. Mrs. Lemay is attending a meeting on February 29 with the State regarding the tree cutting along the State highways. Discussion was held regarding the various projects already completed, including slope minimums that need to be addressed. Mrs. Lemay noted she will be meeting with Stuart McCarthy regarding the plan since he has reviewed it and has some suggestions.

The Pequonnock River Water testing by Harbor Watch was discussed. The town has been given the report and they will need to address the problem areas. Another study will be conducted in another year or two to check on the health of the water and specifically monitor those areas noted as a problem in the study.

Wakeman's Nursery Pond Contamination was discussed. Mrs. Lemay noted it is runoff from the lawns in the community above the nursery.

Joanne Parsons, Dale Parsons and Tim Coughlin entered the meeting at 7:37 pm.

Mrs. Lemay noted the Southwest Conservation Committee came in to conduct the analysis of the pond and provide recommendations for remediation.

Mrs. Lemay discussed the open space map project noting a regional greenway map is being compiled using GIS parcel maps for areas that cross over the borders of the town. The town engineers will add the green spaces for Trumbull. This will also track how animals will shift north in the event of a disaster so that they can nest. It connects sidewalks, trails and greenways.

Introduction of Commissioners

All Commissioners introduced themselves and included their backgrounds and interests in the Commission's work.

DEEP 319 Grant

Mrs. Parsons noted the town received \$60,000 for the Old Mine project and the town must match it with \$40,000. A meeting should be scheduled with Stuart McCarthy to address this project and the Tree Management Plan. Mr. Coughlin and Mrs. Parsons will coordinate.

Inland Wetland Applications

No applications to be reviewed.

Tree Inventory

No movement on this project.

Upcoming Meetings

1. CT Land Conservation Council meeting on 3/19
2. Association of Wetland Scientists meeting on 3/17

Leaf Study

Mrs. Lemay noted the Public Works Department was discussing a leaf study at the Board of Finance meeting. No request for information or comment has been received by the Conservation Commission.

Mrs. Lemay noted the Board of Finance commented on the town recycling program and how it is not being utilized to its full capacity. It was also noted that the Recycling Coordinator position was eliminated which would have provided community outreach education.

Open Space Enabling Legislation

Mrs. Lemay noted this has not been passed by the State but is in this session of the State Legislature. This legislation would require the town to develop a resolution for real estate transactions of assessed value of \$150,000 and over to collect 1% for placement into an account to be used to purchase open spaces in the town.

Tree Plantings

Mr. Coughlin noted he will contact Aquarian for funding to purchase additional trees to be planted at the schools. Tashua Elementary and Middlebrooks Elementary are the target schools.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 7:30 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mrs. Parsons, seconded by Mr. Parsons, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk

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