TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT

Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, April 29, 2026
7:00 pm
Long Hill Conference Room, Town Hall

Present: Tim Coughlin, Dean Lindsey, Sara Laden and Kate Giannelli

Absent: John Massari, Mark Schroeder and Alex Rydelek

Also Present: Janet Epstein

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mr. Coughlin.

Old Business

1. Pollinator Give Away Program – No response has been received from Sustainable Trumbull regarding a spring event. He will reach out again and suggest this program be held in the fall. The Commission approved $3,000 at the April 1 meeting to be used to purchase plants.
2. Arbor Day Event – Ms. Laden noted the ceremony was very moving. Attendees included DEEP, Conservation Commission members and Parks Department employees. Trees were planted between Tashua Road and the tennis courts at the park to replace trees that were removed in the spring. Approximately ten trees were planted following "Right tree, Right Place" placement. Mr. Coughlin indicated this is the fourth year of the Tree City designation noting that the Town is willing to put time and funds into tree planting.
3. Presentation on Miyawaki Method – Mr. Lindsey had no further information. Discussion was held regarding additional topics to be included such as trees in general and the goals of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Lindsey will contact the Library about scheduling the presentation sometime in the fall. Mr. Coughlin discussed the Miyawaki Method that will be part of the presentation given by Mrs. Lemay noting success in bringing back animals and insects to the area.
4. Tree Nursery at Community Garden – Mr. Coughlin had no further information. He noted this initiative could provide trees for an annual give away at the Farmers Market or on Arbor Day.
5. TCTV Information/Presentations – no additional information.
6. State Forester Evaluation of Open Spaces – Mr. Coughlin noted he is waiting to hear back with specifics for requesting the visit.
7. Website Information – Ms. Giannelli noted she removed all the out dated information and is in the process of updating with current information. Suggested a seasonal topic be addressed such as planting natives (spring/summer) with links to specific information to help the resident make

informed decisions. Arbor Day photos will be uploaded. Discussion was held regarding a presentation on a career in the green industry for students who may be interested. Ms. Epstein (76 Old Dike Road) suggested a reposting of a letter co-signed by the Conservation Commission and Inland Wetlands containing watercourse information. Mr. Coughlin will reach out to IWWC to make sure the information is up-to-date. Also suggested the Riparian Buffer information could be posted.

8. Vine Team Update – Mr. Lindsey noted four volunteers attended the last event. They worked on the creek side near the waterfall removing invasives and vines. Suggested a consistent date each month from October to May be considered for easier planning. The next event was scheduled for May 30, possibly at the Nature Center.
9. Review and Discussion of IWWC Applications – no applications for discussion. Mr. Coughlin noted the Plumtree Lane project was denied.

Past Minutes

Mr. Lindsey motioned to approve the minutes of April 1, 2026; seconded by Ms. Laden. Approved with one abstention from Ms. Giannelli.

New Business

1. Ms. Laden noted she held a conversation with Dmitri Paris regarding the beech trees on Beaches Memorial Drive from Twin Brooks Park to Hedgehog Road. Questioned if the Commission should be thinking about a replacement plan for the trees that are dying due to infestation. Discussion was held regarding what is being done in the various research labs on this problem; they are taking a wait and see stance at the moment. For the Town to tackle a replanting plan would be very expensive.
2. Mr. Coughlin noted he received a letter from Aquarian reaching out to the Commission discussing the importance of the wetlands in the ecosystem.
3. Brief discussion was held regarding the Give Away program at the Farmers Market. **Mr. Lindsey motioned to have an expenditure up to $150 to purchase several plants to be offered to participants at the Farmer's Market; seconded by Ms. Giannelli. Approved unanimously.** Commission will be at the market on June 18. Mr. Lindsey will work with Ms. Dobi on handouts and kid-friendly activities.
4. Mr. Coughlin noted 25% of ticks beingtested are positive. Bayberry and pachysandra are prime tick locations. Ms. Giannelli will look to include some type of information on the website discussing ticks and Lyme Disease.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Laden motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm; seconded by Ms. Giannelli. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk