



**BEACON FALLS CONSERVATION COMMISSION
10 MAPLE AVENUE
BEACON FALLS, CT06403**

**MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2018**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ruth Burritt called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm in the Beacon Falls Senior Center.

Commissioners Present: Kristen Jabanoski, Andrew Keane, Ruth Burritt, Sophie Zyla, Lori Brant,

Commissioners Absent: Ashleigh Doherty, Mike Opuszynski.

2. Announcements

The annual CT Land Conservation Council Conference will be held 03/23/2018.

3. Comments from the Public

None

4. Approval of Minutes

Notes from the November 13, 2018 were reviewed. **K. Jabanoski moved to accept them. S. Zyla seconded. All in favor. Motion passes 5-0.**

5. Correspondence

Chairman R. Burritt read aloud an email sent to First Selectman Chris Bielik from Commissioner Ashley Doherty resigning from the Conservation Commission due to the increased demands of her new position in her job. Ashley thanked the Commission for everything they do and the Commission, through the Chair, wished Ashley all the best in her new endeavors.

6. Old Business

1. Woodland Regional Outreach (R. Burritt)
2. Updated Mission Statement (Burritt/Jabanoski)
3. Budget review. (Burritt)
4. Public outreach. Contact other groups in Town regarding the mission of the Conservation Commission. via visits, social media, newspapers. (Jabanoski/Brant)
5. Joint effort w/Library on “Story Walk” at Matthies. (S. Zyla/Burritt)
6. Timely letter to B.O.S. regarding dangerous conditions at Lantern Ridge Park. “Official” status from Town regarding Lantern Ridge Park needed. Signage, taping off the area, notice to the public needed. Quotes are needed for tree work, trail work, and another clean-up needed. The Conservation Commission should get financial needs to the B.O.S. and the Town Grant Writer. (M. Opuszynski)
7. Reorganize Committees with special attention to mission & focus to better follow the Commission’s charter. (M. Opuszynski/Brant)
8. Riverbend Park is being considered as a Regional Recovery Operations location. More info expected in the spring. (K. Jabanoski)

7. New Business

1. Budget Review. Chairman Burritt read a brief line item report from the Finance Dept. (R. Burritt)
2. Spring planting was discussed, and it was agreed to hold off on any plans for now. (Jabanoski)
3. Continued Trail mapping was explained with K. Jabanoski demonstrating Google assisted mapping phone app. used at Lantern Ridge Park. (Jabanoski)
4. Review Commission Charter requirements. ie: index, town owned land, administrator gifts, aid/grants for land acquisition, record keeping/annual report, and manage park property when delegated to do so. (L. Brant)
5. **L. Brant moved to permanently add Agenda Item #5, “Review of Town Commissions/Boards Minutes”. Seconded by R. Burritt. All in favor, motion passes 5-0.** A. Keane will temporally oversee this new agenda item.
6. The institution of tasks to review and acquire land & easements, land use changes, open areas, technical personnel, non-govt. bodies, inventory resources. (Brant, Jabanoski, Burritt)
7. Contact Staff/Faculty at Woodland Regional High School to investigate the possible placement of a student “junior commissioner”. (Burritt/Zyla)
8. The formation of three working groups within the Commission were discussed & agreed upon. They are:
 - a. Land Protection. K. Jabanoski, A. Keane, M. Opuszynski.
 - b. Communications. R. Burritt, S. Zyla.
 - c. Programs. L. Brant.

8. Petition of Commissioners

None

9. Payment of Invoices

S. Zyla moved to pay the Clerk’s invoice of \$94.50 for December/2018 and the CACIWAC invoice of \$50.00. Seconded by S. Zyla. All in favor, motion passes 5-0.

10. Adjournment

The next Conservation Commission regular monthly meeting will be held **Tuesday January 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm** in the **Beacon Falls Senior Center, 57 North Main Street.**

With no other business **S. Zyla moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. Seconded by A. Keane. All in Favor, motion passes 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Peter A. Christensen

Clerk

CC: Conservation Comm.