



Draft Minutes
Brookfield Conservation Commission
Brookfield Town Hall Room 129
May 7, 2014
7:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** A. Dew called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and established a quorum of members:
Present: A. Dew, Chair; R. Blessey, Vice Chair; S. Landis, Secretary/Treasurer; M. Dew; M. Carmody; J. Bronn
Absent: M. Murphy
Also Present: J. Blick; E. Cole Prescott, Recording Secretary
2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – 04/02/14 & 04/22/14 (special):** M. Carmody made a motion to approve the 04/02/14 and the 04/22/14 special meeting minutes. M. Dew seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
3. **GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT:**
 - a. Julie Blick was present, and stated that she is happy to be here tonight.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE:** A. Dew stated that she had received an email from Julie Carmelich of the State Historic Preservation Office. A. Dew stated that the Commission had received a grant of \$10,000 for a structural engineering review of the buildings. A. Dew stated that the matching part of the grant in the amount of \$4,750 had already been received. A. Dew stated that she had spoken with J. Carmelich about possibly re-siding the front house and demolishing part of the existing barn. A. Dew noted that she had received a response from her regarding this matter, and she suggested restoration of some of the compromised sheds as her priority.
5. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** S. Landis reported the remaining amount in the budget.
6. **CURRENT PROJECT REPORTS:**
 - a. **Nature Center** –S. Landis stated that Chrissy’s Garden has been mowed, and the property is in good condition. On May 23rd the swing at the Nature Center will be installed. S. Landis stated that she has some concerns about the ticks, and is wondering if the Town is planning to start spraying again. A. Dew mentioned that perhaps the Commission could plan to spray the property, and asked S. Landis to research the cost of spraying at the Nature Center.
 - b. **Happy Landings** – A. Dew noted that J. Bronn and R. Blessey had met Gary Gaydosh on site.

There was some discussion as to whether to leave some of the field uncut with one cutting at the end of August. No motions were made regarding this matter. However, this year, Mr. Gaydosh will be mowing the entire site.

J. Bronn entered the meeting at 7:20 PM.

- **Happy Landings Management** – J. Bronn stated that Gary Gaydos has signed the lease to hay this property. J. Bronn mentioned that the applicant had added some notes to the lease document. J. Bronn read the email dated 04/25 for the record. J. Bronn asked if approval for the widening of the road has yet been requested. R. Blessey stated that the Inland Wetlands permit application needs to be completed before any removals are done of dead trees and invasive species. The Commission discussed the location of potential bollards on the property.

Other Discussion: M. Carmody stated that she really liked the Southbury booklet (*Get Out and Get Healthy*). J. Bronn discussed the possibility of having this booklet done. J. Bronn offered to meet with D. DiPinto, Director of Parks and Recreation, to discuss potential funding regarding this matter.

J. Bronn mentioned that he had gone to the DiGrazia event, which had been hosted by BOSLI. A. Dew stated that BOSLI will also be hosting a dinner dance fundraiser toward the end of May.

c. Burr Farm – M. Carmody stated that Jason Sivo has not yet sprayed the property. M. Carmody stated that signs had been posted on the property, and she had received some phone calls regarding the matter, but the spraying had never been done.

d. Williams/Gurski Open Space – M. Dew reported that there is some remaining tree work to be done, which he is thinking the Commission can help complete. R. Blessey stated that he could help with the clean-up, and D. DiPinto has offered the use of a machine. A. Dew noted that the Commission will consider possible dates for the clean-up.

e. 18 Junction Road – S. Landis stated that the property has been cleaned.

f. Gurski Homestead – R. Blessey stated that he has spoken with J. Salame about the siding. She stated that the clapboards over the existing shingles seemed to be common for that time period. R. Blessey stated that the application should be sent to CT Historic for both shakes and clapboard, with the provision that the Commission will examine the condition of the current siding and will determine which would be more appropriate for the project.

S. Landis suggested that someone have a meeting with the State Historic Preservation Commission. R. Blessey suggested that the Commission ask the Town Attorney to review the current agreement between the Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office. R. Blessey suggested that a plan be established to move forward with this matter.

g. Eriksen Farm Open Space – M. Dew reported that he has contacted Steve Turco, but has not yet been able to meet him to discuss repairs to the house and painting the barn. He is hoping to meet him on site this week. S. Landis stated that a garage floor needs to be done at the Nature Center. R. Blessey and S. Landis discussed the possibility of having Bob Fisher do some work for the garage floor. S. Landis stated that she would like to work on this matter sooner than later.

h. Old Bridge Sanctuary – J. Bronn reported that the parking lot is in terrible shape. He stated that the property does not seem well-visited. J. Blick stated that much of the parking lot is washed out. M. Dew stated that he will get in touch with troop A regarding setting up a clean up day.

i. Deer Management – No report.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

a. CT Trail Walk Event – A. Dew shared a poster which she had made for the event, and she has given some other town departments the fliers to post throughout the town. J. Bronn noted that preparations should be decided now for the event. A. Dew asked J. Bronn if he would like to add six, non-profit temporary event signs around town. A. Dew volunteered to make a brochure for the kids. A. Dew stated that a list is done of the attendance for the event every year.

J. Blick stated that she can send the flier to the environmental scientist at the High School. J. Bronn stated that he is still thinking about hosting the singles walk.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a. List of Potential Projects – A. Dew stated that she has been asked by Donna Korb of Parks and Recreation for a list of potential projects around the town. A. Dew noted the possibility of adding trail cleaning to this list.

9. ADJOURNMENT: M. Carmody made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM. M. Dew seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

****The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2014.****