

COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Wednesday, November 9, 2016
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Room 201
Minutes of Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Falk von Plachecki, Chairman; Darrell York, Vice Chairman; Andrew George and Sue Bruening; Alternates: Ericka Fuery and Rebecca Meyer; Board of Selectmen Liaison, John Jones; Staff: Wetlands Enforcement Officer: Jay Gigliotti; Randall Benson, Director of Planning; Gail Therian, Clerk;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Moe Epstein

A. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Vice Chairman York called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. E. Fuery was seated as a voting member.

B ADDITIONS TO AGENDA –

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that according to the by-laws the Election of Officers must take place in December so this item should be eliminated from the agenda for this meeting.

Motion by S. Bruening, seconded by E. Fuery eliminate Item A – “Election of Officers” under “New Business”. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2016 Regular Meeting

Motion by D. York, seconded by E. Fuery to approve and correct the Minutes of the September 14, 2016 meeting as presented. **Abstentions:** F. von Plachecki All others in favor **Motion carried.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

E. PENDING APPLICATIONS - None

F. NEW APPLICATIONS – None

G. OLD BUSINESS – None

H. NEW BUSINESS –

A. Election of Officers

This item was eliminated from the Agenda for this meeting. Election of Officers will take place at the December 2016 meeting.

B. 2017 Regular Meeting Schedule

R. Meyer was seated as a voting member for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by R. Meyer, seconded by A. George to approve the 2017 Regular Meeting Schedule as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Endorsement of STEAP Grant

J. Gigliotti told the Commission that the Staff of the Planning and Zoning Department is preparing to apply for a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (S.T.E.A.P.) Grant. The grant is for improvements of the installation, repair and replacement of sidewalks the entire length of the project limits, the reconstruction of a retaining wall in front of two properties on Lebanon Avenue, and the construction of a stamped concrete plaza and bus terminal directly opposite the entrance to Highland Farms Condo Complex. This project is a continuation of Route 16 streetscape improvements beginning at the entrance to Stop and Shop. Discussion followed regarding the location of the sidewalks, crosswalks and the proposed bus terminal.

Motion by A. George, seconded by S. Bruening that the Colchester Conservation Commission endorses the Planning and Zoning Department’s submission of a S.T.E.A.P. Grant application to the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management for Streetscape improvements along Lebanon Avenue (Route 16) as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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I. ENFORCEMENTS – None

J. CONSERVATION –

J. Gigliotti presented a power point presentation on the removal of the Dam at the Mill on River Road. He explained the progress of the removal and the time line. He said that the mill and the dam have now been removed. Discussion followed regarding the diversion of the Jeremy River and the proposed plans for the park in this location. J. Gigliotti also had artifacts from the mill for the members to see. Chairman von Plachecki gave a brief history of the mill to the members.

K. CORRESPONDENCE – None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by D. York, seconded by R. Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

Gail N. Therian, Clerk