



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes

May 22, 2012 @ 7:00 pm

Newtown Municipal Center, Meeting Room #3
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470

In attendance are: Commissioners Wilson, Cramer, Hovious, Kaley, Mcloud and Feder
Staff Members: Lynn Kovack

Public Participation- Mr. Bill Root of Malone & MacBroom was present

Discussion of NRI-Commission reviewed NRI with Bill Root. Commission discussed issues they have with Mr. Root. Mr. Root suggested the Commission compile a list and forward to him for review. He will then make any corrections or additions requested to the NRI.

Correspondence- Received information from Beverly Doyle on Mines for Mills on 5/26/12 \$10.00 per person

Approval of Minutes of 3/13/2012 and 4/10/2012 and 5/8/2012- Approved with corrections: 3/13/12 minutes- line #12 remove last sentence. 4/10/12 minutes- Under open space 37-3-14 change meets to metes.

Administrative Items:

Project Management/Task List: Commissioner Cramer will draft a letter on removal of invasives from properties. Commission will then forward to any land utilities, cemeteries and open space property owners.

Welcome to new member John Feder- John Feder was welcomed to the Commission. John has been a Newtown resident since 2003. He has 20+ years experience in the mechanical engineering. He is married with children.

Old Business and Action Items

Fairfield Hills Open Space : No news to report on. Commissioner Cramer sent email to Dan Holmes regarding the removal of barberry in wooded area below meadow and hasn't heard back yet.

Work Orders: No new updates to report. Rob Sibley has asked Carl in Parks and Rec for a status on outstanding work orders

Open Space 37-3-14 : New dog facility has a few issues getting utilities to the building. They may have to go around state property to get utilities into facility which may affect this property.

Use of High School volunteers – Ryan Fitzgerald has volunteered to help commission out with projects. Daisy Zheng is willing to help with brochure. Need to see if she is available during summer for helping with With brochure.

Committee/Staff Reports

Trail Building Sub-committee – new proposal for trail on Sanford Rd open space to help access to the State Forest without walking on the road. P & R and Trails committee is preparing to map the trail at FFH. Apparently Sandtech designed a trail which is on the FFH map. This continues the paved trail but no money to pave now so mowed grass is current plan. A good alternate to walking the roads back to the start of the paved trail.

Forest Evaluation: No new updates to report

OS Inventory and Maintenance Progress: Commissioner Kaley has filed hundreds of deeds as of today. Commissioner Hovious pointed out there is 1878 acres of open space on spreadsheet.

Property Marking Plans, Surveying Status: Commission would like to mark Sanford Road but do not know

the surveying status of the property. Will follow up with Rob Sibley on it.

Conservation Easement on WWTP-P&R?: No new news to report

Status of Halfway River fishing access: No new news to report

Iroquois invasive documentation: Rob was supposed to go out with Dave Fontaine at the end of May.

Will follow up with Rob on status.

Education Sub-Committee:

Meadows Follow-Up: No new news to report

Pole Bridge Pamphlet.: No new news to report

Invasive presentations to schools: Hawley School has declined Invasives PP presentation by CC. Saying they will instead offer the presentation themselves.

Invasives Sub-committee: Picked up broken banner (Barberry/Tick Connection) and returned to the Supplier. Will wait on his thoughts about replacement or repair.

Invasives Removal at Al's Trail-May 12: Invasive removal and stump marking at Al's trail was Done May 12.

Co-ordinated with Amy Mangold follow up propane torch to be done by P & R in about 4-6 weeks out. Submitted a picture and brief article for Voices but missed getting in for publish time. Talked to Amy about another barberry cut on FFH property, maybe where Dr. Worthley did the demo. This could be easily monitored for effectiveness. Amy thinks it is a good idea. It was suggested that the commission ask Scott Sharlow for support in capturing invasives data in the GIS.

Al's Trail: No new news to report

Strategic Sub-committee: Input to POCD: No new news to report

Duck Race May 26 : Commission will not be participating in the Duck race as not enough Commissioner volunteers.

Legislative: State Bill re Open Space - This Bill has passed

Removal of Dams: No news to report. Commissioner Hovious said George Benson in Conservation looking into state regulations.

TBDAC: Michele Germaine, Marj Cramer and Mary Wilson attended a presentation by Howard Kilpartick, of DEEP at a Board of Selectman meeting, at which time Dr. Kilpatrick answered questions about a possible request from the town to engage DEEP services to do studies in Town with the goal of deer reduction.

Victory Garden: Commissioners Adria Henderson and Mary Wilson have planted a row for the CC

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM