



**TOWN OF NEWTOWN
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Minutes

June 12, 2012 @ 7:00 pm

Newtown Municipal Center, Meeting Room #3

3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470

In Attendance are: Commissioners Wilson, Cramer, Kaley, Henderson

Staff: Rob Sibley and Lynn Kovack

Public Participation: No members of the public were present

Correspondence: Pootatuck Water Shed Association will be showing film on watersheds in Newtown at Newtown Library on June 22nd at 7:00pm. There will also be a Invasive Plant Symposium Oct 25th at UCONN. Commissioner Wilson suggested that WestConn have an invasives speaker in the fall at their lecture series. No reply from them yet.

Approval of Minutes of 5/22/2012: Approved with Changes- Under new commissioner strike- Is married with children

Administrative Items

Project Management/Task List: No new updates

Summer schedule discussion: Commissioner Wilson went over vacation schedules with Commissioners for the upcoming meeting

Old Business and Action Items

Fairfield Hills Open Space: Commissioners discussed concern over the Mad Dash that was held at FFH. Many areas of FFH were disturbed in the set up of the Dash. Commissioner Wilson will draft letter to Amy Mangold at P & R to discuss protocol on using FFH open space for such events as the Dash and other events at FFH.

Work Orders: Rob Sibley is awaiting work order status update from John & Carl at P & R

Open Space 37-3-14 : No new updates

Use of High School volunteers: Commissioner Kaley spoke to Daisy and she will meet commissioner Kaley Saturday and should be able to help with the Pole Bridge brochure during the summer

NRI : Commissioner Wilson developed two assessment sheets regarding: 1) Discrepancies between the hard copy NRI and the version on the CD, and 2) Material in the NRI itself that may be misleading. Rob stated Bill Root just sent him a new CD with all text that is in the hardcopy. Rob forwarded to all commissioners for review.

Committee/Staff Reports

Trail Building Sub-committee – new proposal for trail on Sanford Rd: Sanford road OS is being surveyed by the CCA. Rob Sibley and Steve Birney walked the Pole Bridge OS for the purpose of capturing trails there into the GIS. Mr. Sibley also ordered a duplicate Pole Bridge Sign so that the sign will be visible from both directions when approaching the property. Lot line revision is being done and Town should have property by early August.

Forest Evaluation: Commission will discuss with Forester regarding looking at Shepard Hill Road and Stone Bridge Road.

OS Inventory and Maintenance Progress: Commissioner Kaley discussed which maps (GIS or Surveyor maps) to populate files with. Rob created data base of surveyed OS and showed commissioners how to use and said he will put into the shared files. Need protocol on making changes. Possible limited password access.

Property Marking Plans, Surveying Status: Rob stated Sanford Road being surveyed by CCA. Laurel Trail, Sanford Road, Pond Brook, corner of Arrowhead and Great Ring. Laurel Trail is priority. Rob stated that Marlin has not been completed yet.

Conservation Easement on WWTP-P&R: No new updates

Status of Halfway River fishing access: Rob has spoken to Engineer and waiting for his feedback

Iroquois invasive documentation: Rob met with Dave Fontaine. Forwarded document showing invasive work removal of phragmites. Rob walked area and didn't see one plant and said it looks great out there. Rob suggested commission walk pipeline to see wetlands system.

Education Sub-Committee

Meadows Follow-Up: Rob has not met with Liz yet. He will follow up with her

Pole Bridge Pamphlet.: Commissioner Kaley said we should be on schedule for late summer goal as long as the lot line revision goes through.

Invasives Sub-committee

Invasives Removal MileA Minute-June 30: Commissioner Wilson and Henderson went out to the Huntingtown Road area and couldn't access due to the rain. Commissioner Henderson has been working with Ann Astarita on a Mile-A-Minute removal party which will be held on Saturday June 30th. Commissioners will need to discuss with P & R on the debris removal

Proposal for Barberry removal at FFH: Commissioner Cramer worked on proposal with Dan Holmes to reduce barberry at the FFH campus. Comm Wilson and Cramer will meet with Rob June 13th to discuss the revised estimate on the removal.

Letter to land holders: Commissioner Cramer sent the letter she drafter to the commissioners for them to review.

Property Inspections: Commissioner Wilson and Holly Kocet did 2 more property inspections. One was on Washbrook Road and one on Abbott's Hill Road.

AI's Trail: No new updates

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48PM