

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of September 8, 2015 at 7:00 pm

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

These Minutes are Subject to Approval by the Conversation Commission

In Attendance: Bill Darrin, Karlyn Sturmer, James Ryan, Tom Philbrick

Staff: Dawn Fried, Clerk

Mr. Darrin opened the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Action Items

Forestry Management Plan for Town Open Space

The Commissioners focused on and discussed the Yale Study titled “Management Plan for the Stone Bridge, Pole Bridge, and Pond Brook Properties Prepared for the Town of Newtown, CT Conservation Commission 2/14/2011, J. Daniel Oppenheimer, Brea K. Kroeker, Ben B. Larson, Lucien A. Bouffard Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies”

The Yale Study identifies five key management objectives:

- maintaining forest health and controlling invasive plants
- improving wildlife habitat
- providing environmental education
- creating trails and other recreational opportunities
- addressing white-tailed deer and black-legged tick issues.

The Commissioners addressed the “maintaining forest health” objective and how it pertains to each property. Some recommendations are opening canopies to allow new growth, girdling trees and eliminating invasives.

In addition, the Commissioners would like to meet with other conservation-related groups to discuss forest management commonalities.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.