

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of November 9, 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, Thomas Philbrick.

Via Conference Call: Jim Ryan and Mark Boland

Staff: Robert Sibley, Deputy Director of Planning & Land Use, Dawn Fried, Clerk

Mr. Darrin opened the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Public Participation

Mr. Kyle Lyddy, Mr. Alan Martin and Ms. Sarah Middleleer represented the Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission (SHPMC). Mr. Lyddy gave an overview of the SHPMC and read the SHPMC Mission Statement. There was a group discussion regarding the “site selection consideration” for the permanent memorial. High Meadow was discussed as a viable Open Space (OS) option. Mr. Lyddy asked the Conservation Commission for their input on other OS options, as well. Both groups spoke about the importance of working together on the memorial site and in doing so maintaining the integrity of OS.

Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2015

Mr. Darrin requested a motion to approve minutes of October 27, 2015. Mr. Philbrick so moved. Ms. Sturmer seconded. All in favor.

Action Items

O.S. Parcels

Mr. Sibley discussed the following information:

- Ongoing grant work being done on Chestnut Hill.
- OS signs need to be posted on the designated properties by Laurel Trail and Ferris Creamery. These OS signs were purchased with a state grant.
- Dates were discussed for a walk of Al’s Trails. The walk is tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 20th at 1:00 pm.

New Business

Mr. Philbrick attended the meeting given by the Highstead Regional Conservation Partnership. Mr. Philbrick gave an overview of the meeting and will keep in touch with the group.

Ms. Sturmer inquired about a past discussion regarding an Iroquois pipeline grant. Ms. Sturmer stated that the possibility of receiving a grant would be a great opportunity to fund a forestry management plan. Mr. Sibley stated the CC had been awarded an Iroquois grant in the past and it was a lengthy process.

Ms. Sturmer suggested leaving "Stone Bridge" as a permanent line item on the agenda.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.