

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of February 8, 2016 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: Jim Ryan, Thomas Philbrick and Mark Boland  
Teleconferenced: Karlyn Sturmer

Mr. Ryan opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 12/14/15 and 1/26/16**

Ms. Sturmer was concerned that corresponding documents from the December 14th CC meeting were not attached. Ms. Sturmer felt by not attaching the documents it made it difficult to access. Mr. Ryan stated that any future documents presented at the CC meetings will be attached and posted with the minutes.

Mr. Ryan requested a motion to approve the minutes of December 14, 2015. Mr. Philbrick so moved. Ms. Sturmer seconded. All in favor.

Since there were only two commissioners in attendance at the January 26, 2016 meeting Mr. Ryan asked Mr. Philbrick to make a recommendation to approve the minutes. Mr. Ryan seconded. All in favor.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Commission Appointment**

Mr. Ryan requested a motion to nominate Ms. Jennifer Padilla. Mr. Philbrick moved that the Town of Newtown Conservation Commission recommend the appointment of Ms. Jennifer Padilla to the Conservation Commission beginning February 2016. Ms. Sturmer seconded. All in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Ryan mentioned the upcoming CT Land Conservation Conference (CLCC) on March 19, 2016, at Wesleyan University. Mr. Ryan stated there could be sessions of value to the Commission and he will send out the information if anyone is interested.

Mr. Ryan also spoke about an Aquarion Water grant for \$2,500 to be awarded to environmental, non-profit groups. Mr. Ryan will send out the information if anyone is interested in nominating a person or group for this grant.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Earth Day Booth**

Earth Day discussion to be added to the agenda for the next CC meeting. The celebration of Earth Day is April 23, 2016. Ms. Sturmer is unsure at this time if she will be able to attend. Ms. Sturmer would like to use Earth Day to raise public awareness of how the Commission is working to improve the diversity of the forest land and the habitats in Newtown's Open

Space. Ms. Sturmer would like to also reach out to Lisa Wahle in regards to bringing attention to the NE Cottontail. Mr. Philbrick will attend Earth Day. Mr. Ryan and Mr. Boland will check their schedules. The Commission will continue to brainstorm about Earth Day at the next CC meeting on February 23, 2106.

### **Conservation Website**

A Conservation website discussion to be added to agenda for the next CC meeting. Mr. Ryan stated that the CC website needs attention.

### **Commission Priorities 2016**

Mr. Philbrick suggested adding "Commission priorities for 2016" to the agenda for the February 23rd meeting. Mr. Philbrick stated that each year's priorities should be established and the CC should stick with them. At the end of the calendar year revisit the list and either continue with the list or add different priorities.

### **Site Walk**

Mr. Ryan spoke about the site walk on Saturday. The Commissioners will be filling out the rating sheets. Mr. Ryan will be sending out an email with the prior ratings so the Commissioners can refresh on what the previous Commissioners thought about the property.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Ryan requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Philbrick so moved. Mr. Boland seconded. All in favor. Adjourned at 7:15 pm.