

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of August 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm**  
Meeting Room #3, Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

**These Minutes are Subject to Approval by the Conservation Commission**

**Present:** Mark Boland, Karlyn Sturmer, Cindy Joyce, Chris Smith

**Absent:** Jim Ryan, Tom Philbrick

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

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

Mr. Boland served as acting Chair in Mr. Ryan's absence.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 26, 2016**

Mr. Boland requested a motion to approve the minutes from July 26, 2016. Ms. Sturmer so moved. Ms. Joyce seconded. All in favor. The minutes from July 26, 2016 were approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 8, 2016**

Under "Approval of Minutes" change the last sentence to read "Ms. Sturmer suggested people invited to meetings to present should not be included under Public Participation but should be added under the Action Item to which they were invited". Under "Administrative Items" change "Karly" to "Karlyn". Mr. Boland requested a motion to approve the minutes from August 8, 2016 with the approved changes. Ms. Sturmer so moved. Ms. Joyce seconded. All in favor. The minutes from August 8, 2016 were approved.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

Board of Finance – Mr. Boland stated there will be a motion to accept the Stone Bridge grant.

Board of Selectmen – Mr. Boland stated that the Board of Selectmen is waiting on the CC to start planning for the High Meadow management plan and to select a subcommittee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Joyce spoke about a potential commissioner. Ms. Sturmer will reach out to him.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Web page – Ms. Joyce will discuss the web page at a later date when Mr. Ryan is present. The Commission would like to discuss adding trail maps with Mr. Ryan. Mr. Smith volunteered to be part of the web-page subcommittee.

Stone Bridge – The Commission discussed scheduling a meeting for September 29, 2016 in the Council Chambers. The purpose of the meeting would be to inform the abutters of the Stone Bridge project. Lisa Wahle and Jeremy Clark will also be invited.

The Commission will vote on the final approval of the Stone Bridge project at the next CC meeting. Mr. Boland stated that he is still waiting on comments from CC members.

High Meadow - Ms. Sturmer will reach out to Mr. Ryan regarding the High Meadow Management plan. Ms. Sturmer would like to discuss potential volunteers for the management plan and a possible date for Mr. Ryan to invite them to a CC meeting.

### **TRACKING TOPICS**

Kisoks – Ms. Sturmer asked Mr. Sibley why the Deep Brook kiosk was removed. Mr. Sibley explained that the Deep Brook kiosk was not on town property and did not contain pertinent information therefore removed. Ms. Sturmer also asked Mr. Sibley why the documents were removed from the High Meadow kiosk. Mr. Sibley explained that the High Meadow kiosk was built and is managed by Parks and Rec. Ms. Sturmer would like to create documents relative to the High Meadow habitat to add to that kiosk.

The Commission had a discussion regarding the management of other kiosks on the town's Open Space. There are approximately eight kiosks presently on town O.S.

Some ideas were:

- kiosks should be uniform,
- kiosks should contain trail info
- kiosks should provide an educational component
- kiosks should be relative to the surrounding habitat

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Boland requested a motion to adjourn the CC meeting. Ms. Joyce so moved. Ms. Sturmer seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dawn Fried, Clerk