

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

July 1, 2020

5:15 P.M.

Meeting held via Zoom Conference

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, Ms. Branson, Ms. Dupuis, Mr. O'Hazo

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Mr. Conroy

ALTERNATES ABSENT: Ms. Rawson

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Mr. Lloyd, Ms. Audet, and public member

CLERK: Ms. Gallagher

With a quorum present, Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. and seated Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, Ms. Branson, Ms. Dupuis, and Mr. O'Hazo.

Consideration of Minutes: 9:38

The commission members reviewed the minutes from the June 3, 2020 meeting.

Motion: *To approve the minutes of the June 3, 2020 meeting as written by Ms. Frank*
Seconded by Ms. Dupuis passed 5-0 vote

Spring Hill Farms: 6:30

Ms. Payne made sure the all the Commission Members received the email that Ms. Audet sent showing the Spring Hills Farm Site map.

Ms. Audet reviewed the site plan with the Commission members. She showed the three structures that they are adding to the site, which are a Storage shed, movie screen and a fountain with two bronze sculptures. The shed will be a 10' x 14' pole barn structure used for storage. The movie screen, 14' x 24', will be near the silo (this is temporary) and a 12' x 20' fountain with two bronze statues, (this is temporary). All three structures are well outside of the Conservation Easement and Inland/Wetlands areas.

Motion: *To approve the Spring Hills Farm Site plan exactly as presented by Mr. O'Hazo*
Seconded by Ms. Frank passed 5-0 vote

Support Letters for Steep Rock: 10:42

Mr. Lloyd, Steep Rock, explained to the commission that sadly back in January Ms. Cook passed on and left various parcels of land to different charities. The parcels are around the Hidden Valley area. Some of the charities are choosing to sell the parcels, so Steep Rock is trying to buy

three of the parcels at the appraised value. Mr. Lloyd showed the Commission members a map which he had highlighted the three parcels Steep Rock has under contract to buy. He believes this would advance the Towns plan for conservation, and would also protect the watershed. Mr. Lloyd asked the Commission to write letters of support for the three grants that they are applying for.

Motion: *To approve the Conservation Commission to submit three support letters for grant proposals that Steep Rock is submitting to CT DEEP Open Space Watershed Acquisition Fund, by Ms. Frank seconded by Ms. Dupuis passed 5-0 vote.*

New Preston Falls: 16:52

Ms. Payne gave a quick review of all the work that has been done to the New Preston Falls site. Mr. Brinton, First Selectmen, informed Ms. Payne that the State has put in temporary curbing. The curbing will be redone next year when the road is repaved. Mr. Brinton also gave Ms. Payne a message from Ms. Albritton, extended her gratitude to the Conservation Commission for all of their hard work in helping protect the New Preston Falls site. Ms. Frank will go to the site and take pictures and send the pictures to the Commission members.

School Street and River Walk Maintenance:

Ms. Payne has not been made contact, with The River Walk Maintenance, regarding a site visit and the knotweed removal that was done in the area.

Western CT Clean Air Action Report: 19:08

Ms. Frank reported, the monitors are working and collecting data. There was a high reading at the end of June from most of the monitors in the area, the high readings were particulates and no₂, nitrogen oxide. They are not sure what caused the spike.

Solar Regulations: 22:59

This item is on hold. Ms. Payne will try to contact Mr. Furse. Ms. Payne received information about a seminar, Virtual Connecticut Municipal Virtual Metering Clean Energy Potential, she was not able to attend. Ms. Payne will try to find out information about the content of the seminar and pass on to the Commission members.

Cell Tower: 24:41

Ms. Dupuis reported that the Siting Committee is reviewing the possible Kent tower sites. The

Warren cell tower location is on hold until Kent's decision is made. In July a balloon float is being done near the ridge. Ms. Payne will send an email with information about the balloon float.

Alternate Vacancy: 29:27

This Item is on hold. Ms. Payne asked the Commission members for recommendations.

Other and/or Old Business: 29:36

Town hall has placed a recycle bin in front for plastic gloves.

There is no August Conservation Commission Meeting.
The Chairman ended the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Karen Gallagher", written in a cursive style.

Karen Gallagher
Conservation Commission Clerk
07-08-2020