

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

September 2, 2020

5:15 P.M.

Meeting held via Zoom Conference

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

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ms. Rawson

ALTERNATES ABSENT: Mr. MacDonald

RESIDENTS PRESENT:

CLERK: Ms. Gallagher

With a quorum present, Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m. and seated Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, Mr. Conroy, Ms. Dupuis, and Mr. O'Hazo.

Ms. Branson resigned from the Conservation Commission, Ms. Payne accepted her resignation.

Mr. Conroy has become a full member of the Commission.

Ms. Frank joined the meeting at 5:21 p.m.

Mr. MacDonald was appointed to an alternate position Commission member. He was unable to attend the meeting tonight due to a work commitment. Ms. Payne sent his bio to the Commissioners.

Consideration of Minutes: 8:12

The commission members reviewed the minutes from the July 1, 2020 meeting.

Motion: *To approve the minutes of the July 1, 2020 meeting as written by Ms. Frank*
Seconded by Mr. O'Hazo passed 5-0 vote

Five Senses: 8:40

The festival was a huge success this year, the event planners did a great job with social distancing. Those that attended said they saw exceptional performances.

Ms. Audet, Spring Hill Farms, wanted the Commission to know the dates for the Five Senses Festival for next year. The dates are July 29, 30 31 and August 1, 6, 7, 8, 2021.

Lake Waramaug Country Club: 9:53

The Club has submitted a Zoning Board of Appeals, ZBA, application to install paddle courts and lighting. The ZBA, meeting will take place on September 17, 2020. The Club would like the court luminated at night until 1 a.m. The Commission voiced concern having the court luminated until that hour. Ms. Payne will email the application to the other Commissioners to review the proposed work.

New Preston Falls maintenance, Historic sign: 13:50

The Falls are looking great, new signs and fencing are now in place around the Falls. The commission would like to have a historical information sign made. Ms. Frank sent an email with possible wording for the sign to the Commissioners to review. Ms. Frank would like the Commissioners comments and revisions. Some of the signs around the site are metal, Ms. Frank you like a sign the is attractive and durable. The placement of the sign has to be determined.

School Street and River Walk Maintenance; New Preston open Space phragmites management:

No new Updates

Western CT Clean Air Action Report: 17:25

Ms. Frank reported that they will be having a meeting via Zoom on September 14, 2020.
Ms. Wagstrom, UCONN scientist, will be giving an update on the data.
Ms. Frank thinks the reading will be good because of the reduced traffic due to the COVID 19 pandemic. She will update during the October meeting.

Kent Cell Tower: 18:13

Ms. Dupuis reported that there was a hearing about the Kent Cell tower location and she read the transcript from the hearing. The balloon float that was done in July had a few issues, the balloons were not at the proper height and they were not in the proper location. They will be having a non-public meeting next. The Commission discussed cell phone reception around the lake area.

Other Business: 21:00

Mr. Payne reported the 202 Wykeham Rd. project has begun. There is a Conservation easement on the property. The builder was the first to inform the Commission that the work has started.

Ms. Payne, Thanked Ms. Branson for all of her outstanding work that she did for the Commission. She was the driving force for the proposed Tree Regulations which is currently in Zoning. The Commission unanimously commended her hard work and said the Inland/Wetlands Commission is lucky to have her.

Ms. Payne adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Gallagher
Conservation Commission Clerk
09-04-2020