

July 10, 2013

5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Susan Payne, Diane Dupuis, Randy Bernard, Phil Markert, Betsy Corrigan, Alt, Dirk Sabin, Alt.

Absent: Linda Frank, Ann Quackenbos, Alt.

Staff Present: Shelley White

5:10 pm

Ms. Payne, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Seated: Susan Payne, Diane Dupuis, Randy Bernard, Phil Markert, Betsy Corrigan, Alt.

Consideration of the Minutes

The Commission considered the regular meeting minutes of the Conservation Commission for June 4, 2013.

Corrections:

Motion:

to accept the June 4, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Conservation Commission as submitted,

by Ms. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Corrigan, passed by 5-0 vote.

Greenway Committee

The Conservation Commission thanked everyone that has volunteered their time to the Greenway Committee and acknowledged Bob Williams, Dorothy Wilson and Keith Templeton for their hard work and dedication as members over the years.

Watercourses/Waterways

Water Resources Map:

The commissioners looked at the additions made to the Water Resources Map, prepared for the Town of Washington by Sam Dziekan of Housatonic Valley Association, dated 6-25-13. They agreed that the map is a work in progress and should be updated periodically.

Ms. Corrigan volunteered to hand draw the stream headwaters and the vernal pools on to the working copy of the map.

Mr. Bernard discussed the most recent additions to the map. There was a brief discussion regarding other possible additions to the map that could be useful to the Town.

5:25 Mr. Sabin arrives.

The commissioners agreed that this map should be studied to determine potential areas of protection.

Motion:

to go into Executive Session at 5:30 pm to discuss property,
by Ms. Payne, seconded by Ms. Dupuis, passed by 5-0 vote

Motion:

to come out of Executive Session at 5:40 pm,
by Ms. Dupuis, seconded by Ms. Corrigan, passed by 5-0 vote.

POCD

The commissioners briefly discussed the most recent draft of the revised POCD.

Ms. White informed the Conservation Commission that the Planning commissioners asked Mr. Looney of Milone & MacBroom to rearrange the contents of the sections of the POCD based on priority of goals. She informed the CC that Mr. Looney plans to review all comments from the commissioners and prepare a revised draft that should be ready by mid July.

The commissioners continued to discuss the POCD draft. Ms. Payne recommended that the commissioners forward their comments to Mr. Looney.

New Preston Open Space

Ms. Payne stated that the weather did not allow for a site visit to the New Preston Open Space this evening and that they should plan to meet September 4, 2013 at the site.

Zoning Regulations Review

Viewscape Development:

The commissioners agree that Mr. Sabin's draft of Viewshed thinning was done very well.

Mr. Sabin asked that the commissioners provide feedback on how to quantify the various factors that are included in his recommendations for viewshed thinning.

The commissioners discussed regarding different programs that could assist in the process and enforcement.

Mr. Sabin stated that he is working on diagrams, case studies and photographs that he would like to include in the proposed regulation request.

Other Business

Shepaug River Agreement:

Mr. Bernard stated that Mr. Mathews had forwarded his report to the Waterbury Water Company, which includes violations by the Waterbury Water Company. He stated that the WWC does not believe that they have violated any part of the agreement and want to study the report and look into the allegations.

Invasive Plants:

Ms. Corrigan stated that she has been working with the D.O.T. tackling the invasive plant, porcelain berry.

Knotweed Eradication:

Ms. Payne stated that the knotweed project on the WPS property is continuing and the Garden Club contributed \$3,000.00.

The commissioners briefly discussed possible plantings that could replace the knotweed to prevent erosion.

August Meeting:

It was the consensus of the commission that they would not schedule an August meeting unless needed.

Adjournment

Motion:

to adjourn by Ms. Payne.

Ms. Payne adjourned the meeting at 6:10 pm.

Submitted subject to approval,
Shelley White, Land Use Clerk