

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES June 1, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Frank, Mr. Conroy, Ms. Rawson, Ms. Payne
ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ms. Stagen
Alternates Absent: Mr. Macdonald
CLERK: Mr. Buell
OTHERS: Ms. Zukauskas

Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. and seated Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, Ms. Stagen, and Ms. Rawson.

Approval of Minutes for the May 4, 2022 Conservation Commission Meeting

Motion: To accept the May 4, 2022 meeting minutes as written by Ms. Stagen, seconded by Ms. Payne. Passed 5-0.

Change of October Meeting Date

Ms. Payne stated that following feedback from the Commission, the October Conservation Commission meeting would be rescheduled for Monday October 3, 2022. A motion was then passed to accept this change.

Motion: To reschedule the October Conservation Commission Meeting for Monday October 3, 2022 by Ms. Frank, seconded by Mr. Conroy. Passed 5-0.

New Preston Open Space Management- Phragmites, Ryan Conroy

Mr. Conroy informed the Commission that the Inland Wetlands Commission had approved the permit application to cut the phragmites at the New Preston Open Space. He indicated that as a part of this approval, the Inland Wetlands Commission had requested that before and after photos be taken of the area where the phragmites would be cut.

Mr. Conroy explained that New England Aquatics would begin this work within the next few weeks. Ms. Payne stated that she would like to have notice on when New England Aquatics would be able to perform the work so that she may contact the Selectman's office to ensure that the parking area is mowed. Discussion ensued.

Tree Regs Progress

Ms. Payne informed the Commission that no real progress had been made regarding the proposed tree regulations. She indicated that Attorney Ziska had responded to Ms. Hill's letter, and that the subcommittee tasked with revisions for these proposed regulations had not yet met to discuss this response.

Western CT Clean Air Action Report – Linda Frank

Ms. Frank stated that on Saturday at 2:30 at the Salem Hill Church there would be a service for Mr. Gewanter. Following this, Ms. Frank stated that a final report had not yet been provided by Ms. Wagstrom, and that she hoped that this report would be provided following the start of summer break for the school systems.

Revisit Guidance re Solar Panel Placement

Ms. Payne indicated that she would like to consider solar permitting regulations going forward, and reminded the Commission that Mr. Hubelbank, Selectman, was working to implement solar on town properties.

Other and/or Old Business

Ms. Payne informed the Commission that the Delay of Demolition Ordinance had been approved at a town vote.

Ms. Payne informed the Commission that Mr. Macdonald had resigned from the Commission via email earlier in the day. She preceded to read this resignation outload for the Commission.

2023 POCD ongoing discussions of items to be included in 2023 – Need an In-person Meeting

The Commission reviewed pages 33-36 of the Natural Resource Inventory Report which contains a number of recommendations for the Land Use and Building Departments to consider in their review of building applications. Following a discussion of these recommendations, Mr. Conroy volunteered to contact the Land Use Department to discover which recommendations had been made into regulation by the town.

Recommendations for one Alternate Vacancy

Ms. Payne stated that the Commission would need to consider possible alternate members for the Commission.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. by Ms. Frank, seconded by Mr. Conroy. Passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Buell

Dennis Buell
Conservation Commission Clerk
Town of Washington
6-8-2022

A link to access a recording of this meeting is below.

https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/dbuell_washingtonct_org/EvRYVrkt3HNBhlc9r6L67XgBaWTrlWtYFiOrjZdQM4xeYQ?e=lvG8SS