CONVERSATION COMMISSION MINUTES

October 7, 2020

5:15 P.M.  
Meeting held via Zoom Conference

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

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Mr. MacDonald, Ms. Rawson

CLERK: Ms. Gallagher

With a quorum present, Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m. and seated Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, Mr. Conroy, Ms. Dupuis, and Mr. O’Hazo.

Welcome Christian MacDonald:

The Commission welcomed Mr. MacDonald to the Commission, he is serving as an alternate on the Commission.

Recommendations for our Alternate Vacancy:

Ms. Payne asked the Commission members to for think about possible candidates to fill the remaining alternate position.

Consideration of Minutes:

The commission members reviewed the minutes from the September 2, 2020 meeting.

Motion:  
To approve the minutes of the September 2, 2020 meeting as written by Ms. Dupuis seconded by Ms. Mr. O’Hazo passed 5-0 vote.

New Preston Falls Maintenance, historic informational sign

Ms. Payne asked the Commission to review the proposed wording of the sign. Ms. Rawson would like time to review the wording for grammatical errors. The members discussed the size of the current sign. They need to price out what the sign would cost. Mr. O’Hazo wants to make sure the sign is durable and would like to see what it will look like before making a final decision. Ms. Frank will contact the sign maker to see about a presentation to show the Commission.

Ms. Payne would like to see the area mowed. There are a lot of weeds on the site, Ms. Payne will speak to First Selectman Brinton regarding mowing maintenance to the site.

LID/Low Impact Development & Tree Regs

Ms. Payne reported that are no new updates; the tree regulations is stalled in zoning.
School St. and River Walk Maintenance; New Preston Open Space Phragmites management

Ms. Payne would like to speak to First Selectman Brinton regarding this site. Ms. Payne said they have done a nice job keeping the New Preston Open Space site mowed.

Ms. Frank suggested that Mr. MacDonald take a tour with some of the Commission member to see some of sites that the Conservation Commission are talking about such as The River Walk and New Preston Open Space.

Western CT Clean Air Action Report

Ms. Frank reported they had a large number of participants at the last virtual meeting on September 14, 2020. The monitors are in West Hartford having the sensor’s replaced., then they go to a DEEP site to get recalibrated. Ms. Frank is hoping the monitors will be back by mid-October. The Washington monitor will be moved to the High School. This location is at a higher elevation, then the School Street location. They would like to see the difference between the New Milford monitor with ours. The New Milford monitor is located at Canterbury School, which is at a lower elevation. Dr. Wagstrom’s, Uconn scientist, students are looking at the data, Ms. Frank is hoping that the students might also do hand held measurements. The cost to have the sensors replaced is $450.00. Ms. Frank doesn’t believe this will be an annual expense.

Kent Cell Tower:

Ms. Dupuis reported that no decision will be made on the site location until January 2021. The last meeting was private and Ms. Dupuis does not know, the outcome from that meeting.

Other and/or Old Business

Lake Waramaug Country Club

The Country club withdrew their application for the paddle board courts and the illumination.
The next Conservation Meeting is on November 5, 2020.
The Clerk resigned. The Commission thanked her, and wished her well in her future endeavors.
The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:40p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Karen Gallagher
Conservation Commission Clerk
10-09-2020