Town of Washington

**Bryan Memorial Town Hall**

#### **Washington Conservation Commission**

Minutes May 3, 2017

Members Present: Susan Payne, Linda Frank, Tyler O’Hazo

Members Absent: Diane Dupuis, Randy Bernard

Alternates Present: None

Alternates Absent: Carrie Rowe, Dirk Sabin, Ann Quackenbos

Minutes of April 5, 2017

The members reviewed the April 5, 2017 meeting minutes. There were no corrections.

MOTION: To accept the April 5, 2017 minutes as written. By Ms. Payne, seconded by Ms. Frank,

passed 3 to 0.

* New Preston Falls Project Update – Susan Payne

Ms. Payne said that Nick Solley, Chair of the Building and Property Committee, received approval to apply $1500.00 in funds from the Town Property Budget toward the project. Arbor Services worked on Tuesday

May 2nd. Ms. Payne reported that there were about six (6) major trees taken down. All the branches were cleaned up. Another work day will be scheduled soon.

Ms. Payne read the report from Brian Neff regarding his inspection of the pedestrian bridge over the East Aspetuck River. The main steel beams and end support look good. The bridge abutments consisting of concrete blocks over stone walls appeared to be in good condition. The wide steel I-beams on 48” centers are rusted but not enough to cause substantial weakening of the structure. The handrails on both sides of the bridge are rusted with some minor cracks but they appear to be safe. He concluded that the basic steel bridge is in useable condition but the wood decking must be replaced in order to make it passible.

Ms. Payne asked Selectman Mark Lyon about progress on the Beautification Permit. Mr. Lyon said he is waiting for Dirk’s sketch.

The members discussed timing for an informational meeting for the public regarding the project. Ms. Frank mentioned the New Preston festivities held around the 4th of July. Perhaps the Commission could set up a display with sketches, photos and a reference map pointing to various points of interest in the area.

* Phragmities in New Preston Open Space Project – Randy Bernard

No report for this meeting

* Tree cutting regulations; review Plainville CT LID & Storm water Management Guidelines – Linda Frank

No report for this meeting

* Extension of Woodville Business District review – Tyler O’Hazo, Dirk Sabin

No report for this meeting.

* WEC June 24 Enviro Expo/ Update on plans – Carrie Rowe
* No report for this meeting
* LID Regulations and Horizon Line/Viewshed Protection – Susan Payne

Ms. Payne asked Sean Hayden for an update on his progress. As of this meeting she has not heard back.

Mark Lyon submitted a request for Town membership in the NW Conservation District (NWCD) in the upcoming budget.

* Lake environmental issues – All Members

The members held a general discussion about the substantially increased activity around the lake and along with that the enlarged threat to the public health and water quality.

* Request for Annual Report on use of lake water by Lake Waramaug Country Club – Susan Payne

Ms. Payne received the 2016 Lake Waramaug Country Club Annual Report to DEEP from the LWCC Business Manager. The CC requested that it receive a copy each year. The report will be kept on file in the Land Use Office.

Subcommittee Reports & Assignments

* New Preston Open Space 2017 Management Plan, Scheduling a Work Day – Susan Payne

Ms. Payne reported that the New Preston Open Space is on a maintenance schedule for mowing which is good news. Regarding scheduling work days there, it was the consensus of the members present that the CC should stay focused on the New Preston Falls project but that the area should be monitored to be sure that the mowing continues.

* Cell Tower – Diane Dupuis

No report for this meeting

Other Business:

Ms. Payne distributed a letter from FEMA Region I directed to Mark Lyon in reference to meetings scheduled regarding the Housatonic Watershed. Complete information can be found at <http://newengland.water.usgs.gov/fema_housatonic>.

Three Discovery Meetings are scheduled for Housatonic Watershed on the following dates:

**- Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 9:30 AM:** Fairfield Hills Campus, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470

**- Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at 1:30 PM:** Housatonic Valley Association, 150 Kent Road South, Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754

**- Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 10:00 AM:** Stockbridge Town Hall, 50 Main Street, Stockbridge, MA 01262

Since there was no further business to discuss, Mr. Payne adjourned the meeting at 5:45 PM.

Submitted subject to approval,

Janice Roberti, Conservation Commission Clerk