

# November 5, 2003

**Present:** Chairperson, Susan Payne, Elizabeth Corrigan,

**Alternate:** Linda Frank

**Guests:** First Selectman, Elaine Luckey, Natalie Dyer, Press

Susan Payne, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:10pm.

Linda Frank was seated as an alternate.

**MOTION: Approval of the minutes from the October 15, 2003 meeting of the Washington Conservation Commission, Linda Frank made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15th meeting with the following amendment; under Other Business "evasive" should be replaced with "invasive". Betsy Corrigan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Referrals from other commissions:** none

**West Church Hill Road Conservation Easement:** no new activity

**Road Discontinuation:** reminder Town Meeting November 12th @ 7:30pm.

**Management and Monitoring of Town Properties:** All members received a list with maps attached identifying town owned properties. Linda Frank will work on grouping together town parcels for monitoring purposes. Linda feels that the properties can easily be divided into (6) groups.

**Town Plan of Conservation and Development/ Public Forum October 29th:** Several Conservation Commission members attended the public forum. Members felt there was a good turn out. The Planning Commission is getting together to go over input they received at the public forum and then they hope to adopt the Town Plan of Conservation and Development at their December meeting.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

**Canoe Brook:** no activity

**School Connection (SVHS) and Gunnery/ Environmental Club:**Linda Frank has spoken to the Environmental Club at the Shepaug School. She was hoping they could start with monitoring the school property on South Street. Pam Osborne, Secretary will check on ownership of the property.

**Cell Tower:** no activity

**Land Use Data Management:** no activity

**Flora & Fauna:** Betsy Corrigan is working toward informing the public of basic steps for identifying and properly destroying invasive species, also putting together a list of state listed invasive species that are present in Washington. Betsy feels there will be more success controlling invasive species that are new to the state. Natalie Dyer has started to map knotweed in Washington. There needs to be a plan in place with a goal and then seek volunteers to help get the job done. There was discussion on obtaining the help of the town highway crew for eradication and control. Elaine Luckey felt it was unpractical to expect the town crew to do the work, but it doesn't hurt to communicate with them. Betsy closed by stating that the Giant Hog Weed in Warren is being treated.

**Greenway:** Susan Payne reported that they had a successful work day in the school yard and also worked on the section of Greenway from My Chef to the Firehouse. They will be doing addition planting at the school yard to help fill in the areas cleared. Bob Williams continues work on knotweed control on the Greenway.

**Land Use Info/Welcome Packet and Proposals:** Candace Korzenko is working on a mock up.

**Scenic Road How to Packet and Proposals:** The first application for a Scenic Road has come to the Planning Commission. People have been contacting Joe Gitterman about information. Chick Treadway is working on a how-to packet for the Scenic Road Ordinance. Linda Frank has put Joe Gitterman in contact with Betty Sutter about Scenic Road designation for state roads.

**Water Resources:** Tests have been completed at the Rumsey Hall site, all is OK.

**Fill vacancy on Commission:** tabled

### **Other Business**

The Washington Garden Club is having a "water program" on November 13th at 1:30pm at St. Johns Church, all members are invited.

Members were given a notice about the annual meeting for the Northwest Conservation District which will take place on Monday November 17, 2003 from 6:00-9:00pm., at the Candlewood Valley Country Club in New Milford.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Next scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission is December 3, 2003 at 5:00pm.

Submitted subject to approval,

Pamela L. Osborne, Secretary