

Minutes of Conservation Commission Meeting

4:30 PM, August 2, 2018

Members: Rick Holloway, Sandy Prisloe, Peggy Wilson, Pat Woomer*, Margot Burns, Ted Taigen*, Lisa Wahle

(* = not in attendance)

Meeting called to order at 4:40 PM

Minutes: of the June 2018 meeting were approved.

Audience of citizens: None

Correspondence: None

Call to Order: 4:35 PM

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the July Meeting were approved.

Audience of Citizens: None

Correspondence:

Copies of The Habitat were distributed.

Notice of a Gateway public hearing at 7:00 on Aug 15. Nothing substantial of environmental interest.

Old Business:

a. Storm Drain Stenciling

Stencils have been ordered. Sandy met with Lauren to review stenciling and the MS4 Program. There are possibly in excess of 700 catch basins. Goal will be to mark those with high pedestrian visibility and in any known problem areas. **Rick** to ask (via Jenny) if the town crew knows of any. Chris Haynes will coordinate for Cedar Lake Watershed basins.

b. Envirotips: **Peggy** will include in some late October Envirotips, information on the November ballot item dealing with the State selling or transferring publicly-owned lands. The result will be an amendment to the CT Constitution.

c. PoCD updates/issues/concerns: Lisa distributed maps showing locations of areas in the Natural Diversity Database. No other updates.

d. Boardwalk NQP to Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Members of the CCC had walked the site. There are no items in the budget to finance a boardwalk. **Sandy** will invite a rep from Parks and Rec to attend our next meeting.

Old Business, continued.

e. CCC's role in SustainableCT.

Sustainable CT is an independent non-profit organization. They may be able to help with funding options for Town projects. As the town gets more involved, CCC will find ways to support programs.

f. Fall E-Fair. This will be discussed at the next *Energy Task Force* meeting (Aug 13),

New Business

a. Chester storm water management plan.

Wade Thomas at Jacobson Engineering has written a plan. **Sandy** will distribute this to CCC members. A meeting will be held including Jacobson Engrg, Inland Wetlands, Public works, and the CCC to coordinate actions.

Adjournment: 6:02 PM

OPEN ITEMS (To be discussed for clearance at the next CCC meeting - Sept 2018)

(1) **Recycling** It was agreed that the information provided on the Town's website is superior to that from AllWaste. **Ted** will contact Recycle Connecticut (who supplied the Town's information) for permission to create poster-size versions to place at Town Hall, the library, the Elementary School and downtown.

(2) **Composting**

Ted has spoken with Selectman Charlene Janecek about the materials (mostly leaves, wood chips and animal waste from the Chester Fair) which has been dumped on a steep slope above Chester Creek. Nutrient-rich runoff from this pile is a problem because it runs directly into the Creek. **The CCC** will work towards solving this problem.

(3) # **Margot** will ask the Natural Resources Conservation Group to advise as to whether glyphosphates pose a threat to trees in the area to be treated for Phragmites.

(4) # **Sandy** will contact Dick Harald of Chester Land Trust to see if he has a copy of the management plan for Chester Creek which was prepared by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

(5) # **Margot** will talk to Jenny Dixon (DEEP) about having another bat program, similar to the one hosted by the Chester Land Trust a few years ago.

(6) # — Two interns have been assigned to RiverCOG to work on sustainability programs over the summer. **We** will discuss at the next meeting what specific tasks they were able to help us with.

Next meeting September 6, 2018 at 4:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
R. P. Holloway