

Minutes of Conservation Commission Meeting

4:30 PM, January 2, 2020

Members: Rick Holloway, Sandy Prisloe, Peggy Wilson, Pat Woomer, Margot Burns*, Ted Taigen*, Lisa Wahle (* = not in attendance)

Meeting called to order at 4:35 PM

Minutes: Minutes of meeting November 7, 2019 were approved. There was no meeting in December.

Audience of citizens: none present

Correspondence: Annual report of the CT River Coastal Conservation District. No discussion.

Old Business

- a. EnviroTips: Suggestion that the 2020 Haz Waste collection schedule be addressed.
- b. EnviroTips Publication: **Ted**, no report
- c. Laurel Hill Cemetery overlook: **Ted**, no report

- d. SustainableCT:

Discussion of article in Valley Courier about Essex achieving bronze status in this program. Chester can qualify; paperwork just needs to be submitted.

Pat will talk to Lauren to determine present status of this committee and what can be done for Chester.

Lisa will talk to Grant Russell-Walsh to see if he would be interested in joining or chairing Chester's Sustainability committee.

Interns assigned to Chester by RiverCOG last summer developed software to facilitate submission of necessary data. **Margot** is requested to apply for intern help again this summer to submit the data.

- e. Storm Drain Stenciling: Awaiting warmer weather. Pat has the supplies.

New Business

Meeting Schedule for 2020; It was decided to maintain the same schedule as in 2019 — the first Thursday of each month at 4:30.

Election of Officers

Sandy will continue as Acting Chair. Rick will continue as Vice-Chair and Recording Secretary.

New Business (continued)

Establish Conservation By-Laws.

Rick and Lisa will locate the by-laws which were in place when the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency was part of the Conservation Commission.

Establish invasive plant subcommittee.

Sandy will ask Grant Russell-Walsh if he would be interesting to serve on this sub-committee. Lisa is also interested in serving on such a group.

Plans for Earth Day (April 22)

The CCC will hold a special meeting on Thursday, January 22nd to start planning for this event.

No Idling Ordinance — Town properties, signage.

Discussion of recent article on the ill effects of idling school bus diesel engines. **Pat** will discuss with Lauren as part of Sustainability program.

Consider developing Chester Environmental Policy

Sandy will discuss with Lauren to see if there is any interest with BOS.

L'Hommedieu Park - possible upgrades

Sandy will talk to Lauren to determine what other Town agencies or departments might be involved to encourage use of this beautiful town-owned property. Brief discussion of parking, garbage cans, picnic table.

Adjournment: 6:10 PM

Next meeting February 6th at 4:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Holloway