

## Minutes of Conservation Commission Meeting

4:30 PM, March 3, 2022

Members: (Meeting was held on Zoom): Rick Holloway, Sandy Prisloe\*, Peggy Wilson, Margot Burns, Ted Taigen, Lisa Wahle, Kate Hair (\* = not in attendance)

Meeting called to order at 4:33 pm

Guests: none

Minutes: The minutes of the February 2022 regular meeting were approved unanimously.

Audience of citizens: None in attendance

Correspondence: CT River Coastal Conservation District plant sale announcement

### Old Business

- a. Envirotips: Discussion of ideas for future posts. Plan on announcing plant sale mid-April.)
- b. SustainableCT. On to *Silver*.  
Small teams are working on: Two EV Charging stations, Composting and food scrap collection, a Cedar Lake watershed plan, an update to the Energy Plan, participation in "Repair Cafes," compostable food containers, make Chester Fair a "zero waste" event. Suggestion to use RiverCOG natural hazard mitigation plan. Discussion of need for a simplified description, easily accessible by the public, of what was credited in the Bronze award and what areas need to be addressed. **Rick** will do this.
- c. Native and Invasive Plants subcommittee (NIPS). Felise Cressman prepared an article on the invasive "burning bush" for the Spring issue of Chester Events.
- d. Cedar Lake invasive aquatic plants issues.  
No activity in the past month.
- e. Open Space Inventory **Sandy** is working on a program which will tie detailed digital information about each open space parcel in Chester. Margot will review and update the inventory filed at Town Hall.
- f. Waste Management.
- g. Pollinator Garden educational signage. There was discussion of having two signs for the Water Street garden: a simple one to identify the garden, another to provide interpretive information. Felise has provided photos and content for inclusion on the interpretive sign. Sandy has obtained quotes for sign construction. **Kate** offered to rough out a design working with the NIP subcommittee. **Ted** will pursue funding for a graphic designer and coordination of this sign with that proposed by the Chester Land Trust for the Carini property to ensure a consistent/similar format.

### New Business:

- a. MOTION: Elect Lisa as chair of the Conservation Commission Rick to continue as vice-chair and recording secretary. (Proposed by Rick, seconded by Ted — motion was passed unanimously).

(New Business, continued)

b. Earth Day Activities

— **Lisa** will research sources for pollinator seedlings. **Margot** will check her files for source of last year's tree seedling giveaway. **Ted** said there may be funding from Rotary for seedlings. Discussion about which day to actually have a seedling give-away... TBD.

— **Rick** will forward information on earth day plans by the Essex Sustainability Committee.

— **Rick** will ask if the Chester Land Trust is planning to repeat roadside cleanup this year on earth day.

**Carryover items:** None open

**For future consideration:**

a. See if Camp Hazen would be willing to give the Town the right of first refusal if the camp ever puts the land on the east side of Cedar Lake up for sale.

**Adjournment:** 5:45 PM

**Next meeting** Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 4:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted, Richard Holloway