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ENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY March 12, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Conservation Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante in the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday March 12, 2019 @ 8 PM

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present - Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall, Commissioner Wyzga and Commissioner McGuire.

Also present – Karen Timpone - Recording Secretary

Absent – Commissioner Doyle, Commissioner Kneiss and Commissioner Cote.

Public Participation – Lynn Sacerdote

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of January 8, 2019 was made by Commissioner Dynia and seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussion 6/0/0

New & Pending applications – IWWA and Planning & Zoning Commissions:

Nothing new. There will be a special presentation regarding the TIF at the next meeting. Nothing new in IWWA. Their next meeting is Thursday.

Community Garden Plan:

ECC met with Kip Kolesinskas after the Summit and walked the property for the Community Gardens. He did soil testing and there was approximately an acre and a half of usable land for the Community Garden program. A lot of the property is wetlands. He would support bringing the land back into farmland for The Community Gardens and told the ECC to go ahead with the application for the farmland restoration grant. Kip will come up with a plan for this. The grant cannot be used for restoring the barn or clearing the land. There has to be an entity formed to manage the gardens. Commissioner Wyzga stated that she did have a community garden plot in Thompsonville and some of her flowers were stolen, so this somehow will need to be monitored. The subcommittee of Commissioner Wyzga, Commissioner Cote and Commissioner Vose were not able to meet since the last meeting. The next step is The Vision Statement – rules, goals, performance indicators. Commissioner Wyzga, Commissioner Vose and Commissioner Dynia (said he would help) will meet before the next meeting to come up with the Vision Statement.

It was suggested by Kip Kolesinskas that the beds are not raised unless they are for the elderly or handicapped.

Correspondence All Commissioners:

Sustainable Connecticut Program and Certification – There is a kickoff meeting but Chair LaPlante is not sure when this meeting is. Chair LaPlante handed out the information which involves ECC and EAC. There are 11 items on the list for EAC and ECC to see if it has been done or is in the process of being done. Chair LaPlante has looked at them. There is a point system for everything they are looking to do or what has been done. Inventory of the natural resources and wildlife. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall stated that to start they should use the UCONN site and CACIWC site.

Connecticut River Conservancy – Eagle cruise this Saturday, March 16th. Fish, Fish and more Fish at the Storrs Library in Longmeadow on March 20th. Green forum on plastic pollution in Vernon, April 4th and reducing our plastic footprint experiences from the European Union, April 25th at DEEP. The annual meeting is in Springfield.

Rep Tom Arnone was at the Farm Summit and he mentioned the Scantic River Watershed Monitoring Partnership to Chair LaPlante and sent her the minutes of the first meeting. At the meeting was The Scantic River Watershed, Kristen the biologist, University of St. Joseph, The Sierra Club, State Rep Tom Arnone, someone from USGS, DEEP, East Windsor American Heritage River, CT River Conservancy and Melissa Everett – an Enfield Resident. A watershed based plan focusing on the impairments and finding out how to solve the impairments. A thorough analysis is required of how to move a Listed River to Delisted. The Scantic River is listed as impaired. A project of that type could cost approximately \$600,000. The Watershed Based Management Plan could take a couple of years to create. DEEP sets total maximum daily loads and the TMDL's provide framework for restoring impaired waters. East Windsor has high levels of bacteria, the river is shallower and slower water with fewer rapids, agriculture is present. E-coli have been high in the past years and they want to find out where it is coming from.

Chair LaPlante e-mailed Kiran Majmudar and asked if it would be feasible to put boat launch in at Bailey Road. The novice race was cancelled this year at the Scantic Splash because there is no place for them to come out. She has not heard back yet.

Liaison Report – Economic Development Commission – Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall reported that the last meeting was prior to the Town Council vote on the TIF and that has really been the whole focus. The Council did vote on it and approved it. There is going to be a special meeting April 15, 2019 to work more on the actual implementation (fine tuning rules and regs) of the TIF. There is another meeting coming up last Wednesday of the month. The Town has a new Planner, Nelson Tereso. He is a grant writing expert. He has worked with the State, DEEP and Department of Economic Development and has worked with open space.

Liaison Report - Scantic River Watershed Association – Commissioner Dynia reported – There was a meeting last month. The next one will be next week - Monday or Tuesday. At the last meeting East Windsor reported they had a flood in Jan/Feb which wiped out the small bridges on the hiking trail in Melrose. The Annual Scantic Spring Splash fund raiser is coming up on Thursday, March 26th at 6 PM at The Powder Hollow Brewery \$20.00 for a free beer and some food by the Love of Food will be offered. Tickets will be in advance or at the door. The race is on Saturday, March 30th. No novice race this year. The race will start at 12.

The E-Coli testing will begin in May in Enfield. Not sure of the spots yet. Chair LaPlante shared the results of the E-Coli testing from last year Enfield. All spots in Enfield, Somers and East Windsor at one point had high levels not safe for boating or swimming. They want to figure out why that is happening.

Chair LaPlante reported Aquarion sent a nomination notice to ECC looking for any nonprofit nominees for a \$2,500.00 grant given in their name. Chair LaPlante stated there are no water systems in the Scantic River area.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Next meeting is Tuesday April 12, 2019 –

Motion was made by Commissioner Dynia to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussion - passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned @ 9:05 PM