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ENFIELD TOWN CLERK

ENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

2022 APR 19 AM 10:48

Sheila M Bailey

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Conservation Commission was called to order by Chair Bill Cote in the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 @ 8:12 PM

Roll Call

Secretary Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present - Chair Cote, Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall, Commissioner LaPlante, and Commissioner Kober

Absent – Commissioner Wyzga, Commissioner McGuire, and Commissioner Sacerdote

Also Present – Georgie Driver – Staff and Karen Timpone – Recording Secretary

Chair Cote empowered Commissioner Kober as a voting member in Commissioner Sacerdote's and Commissioner McGuire's absence.

Public Participation – None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of Tuesday March 8, 2022 was made by Commissioner LaPlante, seconded by Commissioner Kober – No discussion – passed 6/0/0

Correspondence - Commissioner LaPlante shared the Connecticut Wildlife Magazine which was given to her by someone on IWWA. It is also available online. It contains the recent Connecticut Bald Eagle banding reports.

Chair Cote received an e-mail from Colene Ciniglio one of the Career Counselors for Enfield High. They were having a panel on April 7th and she asked if someone from the ECC might be able to participate. Unfortunately he did get it in time, as he was on vacation and was not able to send it to anyone. He asked for the future if anyone is interested in attending something like this, sitting on panel. Commissioner Dynia said he may be interested. Chair Cote will pass the information along to all Commissioners so they can contact her directly if interested.

Reports of Officers, Committees and Staff - Commissioner Dynia reported on the Scantic River Watershed Association. The 29th Annual Scantic Spring Splash was on March 26th. This was the first one in two years due to COVID. There was a good turnout and a lot of spectators this year. There were about 58 boats and approximately 75 people. Most boats finished maybe 3 or 4 did not, two boats got stuck in the rapids but they did get them out eventually. Commissioner Dynia thanked everyone who helped out. Scantic River Watershed Association is meeting at the end of the month. Kirsten needed funds for a piece of equipment that she uses for E-Coli testing as the old one was not working. The Scantic River Watershed donated, as well as The East Windsor American Heritage Group and the balance of the money was from St. Joseph's College and she was able to purchase the equipment. As soon as she gets it she can start testing for E-Coli, etc., in the river. It usually starts at the end of May. They are going to have a full moon paddle sometime this summer, no date as of yet. East Windsor will have their hike in June on Connecticut Hiking Day.

No update on the Economic Development the last meeting was cancelled. There is a meeting as of right now for next Thursday.

Unfinished Business –

Chair Cote asked about the Kiosk discussed at the last meeting. Georgie was going to check with Laurie to see how to go about replacing the one that was burned. Georgie asked her about the process. She has all the information together from the last time. The cost did go up significantly. The ECC would like the same type so Georgie will proceed with getting the budget, and all the materials, and she will send it to Laurie.

Georgie asked Commissioner Cote to add Review of the ByLaws to the agenda. Commissioner Kober made a motion to add an item to the Agenda to Review the ECC ByLaws, seconded by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall - passed unanimously – 6/0/0. Georgie handed out two copies of the ByLaws. One says currently not in effect as they were never signed by The Town Clerk. Commissioner Kober made a motion to table item 8B Review of ByLaws until the next regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner LaPlante passed unanimously 6/0/0.

Commissioner Cote wanted to discuss the 490 open space ordinance – Commissioner Dynia has a draft from Commissioner LaPlante dated March 28, 2022 which has not been presented to The Town Council as of yet. Commissioner LaPlante was waiting to hear back from Joan Nichols regarding other towns with 490 open space ordinances for input but has not heard back from her yet. Commissioner LaPlante would like to move this forward by getting it approved by Town Council and getting it into the POCD. Commissioner Kober suggested they put it into the POCD and then reexplore a resolution for Town Council. Commissioner LaPlante stated that they do not meet in August and if this is not passed by October 1st, then they cannot get a 490 open space ordinance done. Georgie said it has to be reviewed by staff first, once the draft is completed and then they meet with the Town Manager and then depending on what they come up with it goes to Town Council. She said getting in the POCD is the first step as a goal. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall stated that the assessor said that the farmers in the town of Enfield did not have a 490 open space ordinance as an option. Commissioner LaPlante read the draft letter. Chair Cote thinks that other Town's 490 open space ordinances should be also sent along with the draft ordinance by Commissioner LaPlante.

Commissioner Kober suggested they draft a cover letter to go along with the draft ordinance to the Town Council telling them that the ECC would like to get a 490 open space ordinance done. Chair Cote will send a letter to The Town Council stating that the ECC suggests a 490 open space ordinance be created for the Town of Enfield and possibly send the current draft by Commissioner LaPlante.

POCD –

Implementation strategies

1. A – Chair Cote would like it to read - Redefine floodway to help with flood control measures.

Under goals #4 Commissioner LaPlante suggested that percentages be added. Chair Cote suggested it read - Reaching the State of Connecticut's Open Space Goals.

Under 3A i – add - sustainable energy

Under C - Community Gardens- Chair Cote would like to add – Investigation into the Elm Street and Shaker Road locations which is 13+ acres of currently owned open space by the Town of Enfield.

Tree Replacement – Add - Create and implement a tree replacement policy for the Town of Enfield, creation to be completed in year one of the POCD with implementation within year two of the POCD.

Add under #2 - Increase percentage of open space in Enfield to have more walking trail available.

#8 will be changed to read - Identify, maintain and acquire open space parcels that protect, preserve and enhance the esthetic, recreational and ecological functions of our natural resources.

Add - Preserve open space along the two main waterways in the Town of Enfield, the Scantic River and Connecticut River – Georgie will add this if it is not in the current POCD.

Georgie will make the above changes and submit it.

Urban Forestry Grant Meeting –

The public was supposed to come. The Community Development Department and Public Works met with Georgie, Laurie and the arborist on site to go over the tree locations. They identified all the locations of the trees. They are flagged right now and tree planting will begin on May 19th. It will involve some high school kids for education outreach. There were some minor changes regarding the trees. There will be two Colorado Spruce trees in D'Aleo Park. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall asked why. Georgie stated it is to hide the dam and the fire station.

Commissioner LaPlante asked about the re-subdivision on Angina Drive. Georgie said they are just dividing the property.

Adjournment: Next meeting is Tuesday, May 10, 2022 –

A motion was made by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Kober – No discussion - passed unanimously - 6/0/0

Meeting adjourned @ 9:39 PM