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Shila M Bailey

ENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 9, 2022

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 Wednesday November 9, 2022 @ 7:41 PM

Roll Call

Chair Cote took the role.

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

Absent – Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Sacerdote, and Commissioner Kober

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

Public Participation – None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of Tuesday, October 11, 2022 was made by Commissioner LaPlante, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussion – 5/0/1 – abstention by Commissioner McGuire

Correspondence: Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall reported the new POCD has a design district on prison property and it includes land and is in fact preserved for grassland bird habitat in perpetuity. She has been trying to find out exactly where it is. She has a general idea. She reached out to Jenny Dickson who works for DEEP and she was going to look up the map and the document that says, yes it is preserved in perpetuity but she has not gotten anything from her yet. There have been bobolinks, savannah sparrows, and eastern meadowlarks there. She did some research on the internet and found a newspaper article from 2001 that said it was 150 to 200 acres. One from 2012 grassland bird survey from a magazine called the Warbler, states it is 120+ acres, and then one from the State of Connecticut from Office of Policy and Management that is a final decision and it says 126.5 acres. She is hoping to get the map to provide it to P&Z so they can update the maps to reflect the actual open space area that is preserved. Georgie does not think the POCD maps from 2011 have been updated for open space, which she will make sure is done. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall believes it is on both sides of the road. There is a meeting on December 15, 2022 for P&Z where they would like to have ECC come to talk about the POCD and 490 open space ordinance which will be during public participation.

Reports of Officers, Committees and Staff: Commissioner Dynia stated that he and Commissioner Vose attended the CACIWC this year. It was held in New Haven. He attended three seminars. One was on climate change which was informative. If there are no changes, by 2050 the average temperature could rise by 5 degrees in Connecticut. He also attended invasives in lake and ponds. There was someone from the Dept. of Ag which goes and to different lakes and ponds for samples of invasives. They did do Crescent Lake in Enfield and Crystal Lake in Ellington. You can ask them to do a study in your area. They have a list of invasives that they find. In Candlewood Lake they have a big issue with invasives so they introduced grass carp to help.

Commissioner Dynia also reported on the Scantic River Watershed. They took a trip out to King's Island with kayaks. They checked out the campsite which is in good shape still. An Eagle Scout did a project to

put a picnic table with a shelter to hang a tarp and it has been completed. He also reported that looks like there was a homeless encampment on the island. They are looking for a location and speaker for the annual meeting which usually takes place in November/December. It has been a zoom meeting for the past few years.

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall reported on Economic Development. They met on October 20th and discussed applications for the APRA grant monies for businesses. There were five applications submitted. They are hoping for more as some did not meet the criteria.

Commissioner LaPlante asked Georgie for an update on the 490 open space ordinance. Georgie said it was out of her hands and went to Laurie and Matt because they staffed P&Z. It was approved as a positive resolution for town council and now is going to P&Z on December 15th.

Unfinished Business:

List of Natural Resources and Wildlife. Chair Cote sent everyone an email yesterday with other towns Norfolk and Ellington and their list of Natural Resources and Wildlife. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall also sent everyone Canton's. The one from Norfolk was very elaborate. The Norfolk one took over two years to get done. Chair Cote did a presentation for guidance on going forward. They would like to use Ellington's as an example. The ECC is mandated to create and maintain a list of Natural Resources and Wildlife. There is information from Sustainable Connecticut on how to create a one (guidelines, websites, funding, etc.) The ECC talked about setting up a subcommittee to see how to go forward. Georgie has some of the information on the GIS layers. Chair Cote suggested that a subcommittee with these three examples they have should be able to create a table of contents for the Town of Enfield. A motion was made to create a subcommittee for a table of contents for the List of Natural Resource and Wildlife by Commissioner Dynia and seconded by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall – passed unanimously 6/0/0. The subcommittee will be comprised of Commissioner Wyzga, Commissioner LaPlante, and Commissioner Dynia. They will report back at the January meeting. Commissioner Cote will send them all the information he has.

New Business:

List of Open Space - Georgie will send Commissioner Cote what she has.

Adjournment: Next meeting is Tuesday, December 13, 2022 –

A motion was made by Commissioner Wyzga to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner LaPlante – No discussion – 6/0/0

Meeting adjourned @ 8:50 PM