



TOWN OF ROXBURY CONNECTICUT

Conservation Commission

29 North Street • P.O. Box 203 • Roxbury, CT 06783-0203

ROXBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MARCH 9, 2016 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 PM.

Members Present: Chairman Gary Steinman, Secretary Cathy Masi, Ron Faanes, Trudy Swenson, Joni Weller, Russ Pribanic. Members Absent: Vice Chairman Cecelia Santillo and Timothy Flanagan.

Guest: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ron Faanes and seconded by Trudy Swenson to approve the Minutes of the January 13, 2016 meeting. Motion was approved by all members who were present at the January 13th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

Email correspondence forwarded upon receipt.

NHCOG Forum for Land Use Commissions to be held at the NHCOG office at 59 Torrington Road in Goshen at 6:30 PM.

Land Conservation Conference at Wesleyan University in Middletown starting at 8 am on March 19th, cost \$65 for non-members.

REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

Chair's Report

Gary Steinman reported that Eliot Davis and Paul Szymanski appeared before the Planning Commission to provide a brief overview of their plans for the proposed distillery at the historic Roxbury Station. Gary took the opportunity to thank them on behalf of the Conservation Commission for their investment and efforts in preserving this significant property.

Commission Summaries

Ron Faanes regularly review the minutes of other Town Commission minutes and distributed highlights. Planning Commission members discussed Smart Growth and the potential polling of townspeople as to what they see the needs of the town to be. The Zoning Commission will be driving force for new Smart Growth proposals. Tree houses were talked about at length regarding allowable sizes, set-backs and safety concerns.

The Clean Energy Task For

Ron Faanes explained the expert on fuel cell technology scheduled to speak to both the CETF and the Conservation Commission has rescheduled his visit for the next regular commission meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Joey's Trail

Gary Steinman distributed aerial views of the proposed Joey's Trail which showed a few changes including a direct path to the Senior Center and to the existing path to the Booth School. Ron Faanes suggested the commissioners visit 'Anne's Place' in Danbury, a trail system designed to assist in the recovery for cancer patients. The Ann's Place walking trail is somewhat similar to what the Conservation Commission envisions for Joey's Trail which will offer easy usability for seniors. Trudy Swenson suggested combining CT Trails Day, the first Saturday in June, with the

first of three volunteer working days in the trail building process. Gary Steinman circulated a brochure about helical pier supports for an elevated boardwalk over wetlands.

Recycling

Tabled

Composting

Tabled

Invasive Plants

The topic will be placed on the future agenda items as an important issue to consider at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

River Monitoring 2016

Trudy Swenson is an advocate of testing the health of Roxbury's rivers via the sampling of macro invertebrates but she stated the Commission lacks the manpower to do the sampling according to the stepped up protocol of the DEEP. The idea was discussed of having just a few commission members do the sampling to verify the health of the rivers thereby reducing the organizational preparatory work significantly.

MEMBER COMMENT

FUTURE AND TABLED AGENDA ITEMS

- Conversation on Trees
- Conservation Plan
- Review/revise Land Use Guide
- Open Space Plan, review/revise
- Composting (Timothy Flanagan)
- Strategic Planning (Gary Steinman, Trudy Swenson)

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Masi

Cathy Masi, Secretary

The above minutes are not official until approved by the Commission members at the next meeting