



TOWN OF ROXBURY CONNECTICUT

Conservation Commission

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

ROXBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING JUNE 8, 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 and Timothy Flanagan seated for Cecelia Santillo.

Members Absent: Cecelia Santillo and Russ Pribanic.

GUESTS:

Luanne Awlasewicz

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Trudy Swenson and seconded by Timothy Flanagan to approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2016 regular meeting. Motion was approved by all members who were present at the May 11th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

Email correspondence forwarded upon receipt.

Letter from First Light dated May 19, 2016 regarding the non-funding of the Commission's grant proposal. Re-submission of the proposal next year was discussed. Trudy Swenson stated the proposal is worthy and that the bulk of the work has been done.

REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

Chair's Report

Gary Steinman reported Conservation Commission property has been used without permission. Discussion detailed under 'Member Comment'

Commission Summaries

Ron Faanes regularly reviews the minutes of other Town Commission minutes and distributed highlights. The summary review brought up the subject of an earlier blight ordinance proposal which will be reviewed at a subsequent Commission meeting.

The Clean Energy Task Force

Timothy Flanagan has received the ZREC application (Low and Zero Emissions Renewable Energy Credit Program) from Barbara Henry. Legislation has been passed allowing twelve additional municipalities to participate in Virtual Net Metering which would allow municipalities to generate electricity in one location and utilize the net amount of electricity for municipal buildings in other locations. A solar energy-generating facility at Roxbury's landfill could be used to offset the power used by the town hall, town garage, firehouse, library and senior center.

OLD BUSINESS

Joey's Trail

Trudy Swenson happily reported the CT Trails Day event of beginning work on Joey's Trail was a rousing success. At least 34 volunteers showed up with tools, gloves and a 'can do' attitude and accomplished an amazing amount of clearing away brush and bramble. In Trudy's words, "the Roxbury Conservation Commission rocks" with 100% of commission member participation. Friends and members of the Awlasewicz family made up most of the

remainder of the work party. Jan Steinman and Trudy Swenson provided morning refreshments and luncheon pizza for all the volunteers.

Gary Steinman and Trudy Swenson are working on a proposal to present to the Inland Wetlands Commission at their July meeting demonstrating alternative methods of building boardwalk crossings totaling approximately 150 feet in length. The Inland Wetlands Commission will select the method of construction judged to be the least intrusive. No other work on the trail can begin until a permit from the IW Commission is granted.

Luanne Awlasewicz reported that Bill Frederick, one of the brush clearing volunteers, is a carpenter who is well experienced in constructing boardwalk crossings. Luanne also stated that processed stone for the path will be donated. Gary Steinman is talking to a local company about donating materials.

Gary Steinman prepared an outline of the benefits of Joey's Trail along with a construction activity plan.

- Memorial to Joey Awlasewicz
- Supports Senior Center exercise walking program
- Off the road trail from Booth School to Library
- Off the road trail from Senior Center to Library
- General recreation for Roxbury residents similar to walking loop at Hurlburt Park
- Permits access to Booth students to wetlands in support of science classes
- Addresses POCD directive to create trail connection between town center and Greenbelt
 - Future path to Hurlburt Park
 - Connection to future center trail: Weller's Bridge and Church Street to Maple Bank Farm along the 80 foot right of way and along North Street.

River Monitoring 2016 Activities

Tabled

Recycling

Tabled

Composting

Tabled

Student-oriented activities

Tabled

NEW BUSINESS

Fall Town Wants To Know Program

Ron Faanes suggested a program centered on Alternative Power Sources and Methods of Alternative Power Storage including solar, geothermal, fuel cells and organic fuels. Residences with self-contained power generating and storage systems that are 'off the grid' would be an interesting addition to the program.

MEMBER COMMENT

Conservation Commission equipment and Commission member's personal property have been borrowed without permission causing extra effort on the part of commission members to locate and retrieve the items when needed for commission events. It was decided to label items as property of the Roxbury Conservation Commission and to post a notice stating that permission must be obtained with instructions for same before taking equipment and that equipment is to be returned in the same condition and to the same location and notice given of the return.

FUTURE AND TABLED AGENDA ITEMS

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

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Masi

Cathy Masi, Secretary

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