

Town Of Thompson
Conservation Commission
815 Riverside Drive, PO Box 899
North Grosvenordale, Connecticut 06255

MINUTES: AUGUST 17, 2015
TOWN HALL 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

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Chairman Phil Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Members present: Phil Thomas, Norma O'Leary, Carol Smith, Bernie Davis, Ron Tillen and Kathy Mitchell.

Guests present: Hap Coman and Steve Herbert.

Staff present: Carolyn Werge and Audrey Witkowski.

Approval of Minutes

1. Correction to the July 20, 2015 Minutes: Change the date from June 15, 2015 to July 20, 2015. **Bernie Davis moved and Kathy Mitchell seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2015 meeting as corrected; the motion carried.**

Financial Matters

1. 6.8% of the budget has been used.

Correspondence

- a. Members received via email:
 - 1) Minutes: Conservation Commission, July 20, 2015.
- b. Incoming Mail: The Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commissions has distributed their Summer 2015 issue of The Habitat.
- c. Outgoing Mail:
- d. Incoming Mail via email:
 - 1) Carolyn Werge emailed photographs of the Revolutionary War gravestone in the Bates Cemetery, dated July 21, 2015.
 - 2) An email from Donald Pimental concerning the Furno Property, dated July 28, 2015.
- e. Outgoing Mail via email:

Officer and Committee Reports

1. Conservation Officer Report
 - a. New Requests: None
 - b. Old Requests: None
 - c. Updates:
 - 1) Carolyn Werge attended the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on July 27th to answer the members' questions concerning the 5 open space parcels acquired in recent years. They approved the Conservation Easements for the open space parcels. The selectmen will now move these to a Town Meeting.
 - 2) Carolyn Werge visited the Bates Cemetery to photograph the Revolutionary War gravestone. She also photographed a World War II gravestone.
 - 3) The Last Green Valley is asking for help in documenting work done within the Last Green Valley that fulfills their mission. Carolyn Werge wrote a list of projects and volunteer hours the Commission has contributed to forward on to The Last Green Valley.
2. Other

Old Business

1. Update on previous Conservation reviews: None.
2. Blue Bird houses: None.
3. Fabyan Property with "Honor Roll" marker: None.

New Business

1. The Last Green Valley is offering a Historic and Cultural Resources Small Grants Program. Carolyn Werge presented her project proposal to develop and publish a brochure about the town cemeteries. The Commission discussed possible paper choices and budget options.
 - a. **Bernie Davis moved and Norma O'Leary seconded the motion to move forward with the project; the motion carried.**

Citizens' Comments

2. Steve Herbert, Wilsonville Rd, is running for First Selectman and was interested in learning more about the mission of the Conservation Commission. He was impressed by the dedication the members have to the Commission.
3. Hap Coman stated that it would be nice to receive the grant from The Last Green Valley and move forward with the proposed project.

Members' Forum

1. Norma O'Leary brought to the attention of the commission the CT OPM Neglected Cemetery Account Grant Program. The OPM will allow up to \$2,000 for maintenance in neglected cemeteries.
2. Norma O'Leary hosted another yard sale to raise funds for the River Mill Village Playground. She collected almost \$1,000 to purchase additional equipment for the playground.
3. Norma O'Leary received a phone call for volunteer hours for a man looking to complete 43 hours of Community Service.

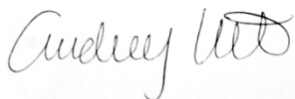
Announcements

Future Meeting

1. The next meeting will be held Monday, September 21, 2015 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Adjournment

1. Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:39 PM.



Audrey Witkowski
Recording Secretary