

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

MINUTES: MAY 16, 2016  
TOWN HALL 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

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Chairman Phil Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

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

Staff present: Audrey Witkowski and Carolyn Werge.

Guests present: Hap Coman.

*Approval of Minutes*

1. **Bernie Davis moved and Ron Tillen seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the April 18, 2016 meeting as presented; the motion carried.**

*Financial Matters*

1. As of April 28th, 78.6% of the budget has been used.

*Correspondence*

- a. Members received via email:
  - 1) Minutes: Conservation Commission, April 18, 2016.
- b. Incoming Mail:
  - 1) The Spring 2016 issue of The Habitat from the Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands, Inc.
- c. Outgoing Mail: None.
- d. Incoming Mail via email: None.
- e. Outgoing Mail via email: None.

*Officer and Committee Reports*

1. Conservation Officer Report
  - a. New Requests: None.
  - b. Old Requests: None.
  - c. Updates:
    - 1) Cemeteries Updates:
      - i. There is still no definitive information about the possible burial site on North Grosvenordale Pond. Ruthie Brown of the CT Gravestone Network has done some online research with the CT Historical Society and the State Library with no success. Brian Jones, State Archaeologist, said the site is not associated with any documented archaeological sites but the Lidar image shows a possible foundation just north of the suspected site. The Conservation Commission agreed to conduct a site walk, June 13.
    - 2) Carolyn Werge added the parcels with recent Conservation Easements, two properties belonging to the CT Forests and Parks Association and Eastern CT Forest Landowners Association/Wolf Den Land Trust and a notation on the Wildlife Sanctuary to the Permanently Protected Land Map. The Commission would like to check on the area of the Wildlife Sanctuary with the current landowners and ask what their future plans for the site are.
    - 3) Carolyn Werge was asked to attend a site walk in East Thompson with Allan Rawson of NOW to review the conservation and historic values of the area.
2. Other

*Old Business*

1. Update on previous Conservation reviews: No update.
2. Blue Bird houses: No update.
3. Fabyan Property with "Honor Roll" marker: No update.

*New Business*

Phone: 860-923-1852

Fax: 860-923-9897

Website: [www.thompsonconservation.org](http://www.thompsonconservation.org)

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### *Citizens' Comments*

1. Hap Comen asked how the power plant proposals would affect the ecology and the surround area. It is unlikely that they will use coal, but will use natural gas. Phil Thomas commented that when they close Pilgrim by 2020 they will replace the power plant with generators to supply power. Ron Tillen commented that the power lines expansion was done well in regards to wetlands conservation.

### *Members' Forum*

1. Norma O'Leary was asked by a community member if the Conservation Commission would be interested in geocaching in the Thompson Cemeteries. The community member noted that some cemeteries in the area have allowed geocaching. The Commission agreed to gather more information and discuss it at a later meeting.
2. Norma O'Leary is looking into a cemetery that may have originally been in Thompson, but is now part of Putnam. When the Hale Collection was conducted there were two cemeteries that were not found, including the Day Cemetery. The Day Cemetery is supposedly stated in the deed for the property it is on as well. A citizen on the historical society grew up in that area and he recalls there being a cemetery there. Carolyn Werge and Norma O'Leary would like to do a site walk and will call for permission from the land owners to do so.

### *Announcements*

#### *Future Meeting*

1. The next meeting will be held Monday, June 20, 2016 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

#### *Adjournment*

1. Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:43 PM.

Audrey Witkowski  
Recording Secretary