

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

MINUTES—APRIL 17, 2017  
TOWN HALL 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

p. 1 of 2

Chairman Phil Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

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

Staff present: Carolyn Werge and Audrey Witkowski.

Guests present: Hap Coman, Lynn Landry, Ann Rosebrooks, Susan Esons and Roman Jamieson.

*Approval of Minutes*

1. **Ron Tillen moved and Bernie Davis seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the March 20, 2017 meeting as presented. The motion carried.**

*Financial Matters*

1. 68.9% of the budget has been used.

*Correspondence*

1. Members received via email:
  - a. Minutes: Conservation Commission, March 20, 2017.
2. Incoming Mail: None.
3. Outgoing Mail: None.
4. Incoming Mail via email: None.
5. Outgoing Mail via email: None.

**Ron Tillen moved and Bernie Davis seconded the motion to move line item 1 under new business up on the agenda. All in favor. The motion carried.**

1. Lynn Landry spoke on the storage and transportation of fracking waste in Connecticut. Fracking companies are currently looking to expand into New England for storage of toxic fracking waste. Connecticut's moratorium on storage and processing of fracking waste ends on June 30. Lynn Landry is looking for support from the Conservation Commission to advise the Board of Selectmen to pass an ordinance banning fracking storage in Thompson. Ron Tillen agreed the Commission needs to object to fracking storage in town. Mr. Tillen suggested advising other town commissions to also support the ban.
  - a. **Ron Tillen moved and Bernie Davis seconded the motion to address town officials that the Conservation Commission advises to prevent fracking waste in town. All in favor. The motion carried.**

*Officer and Committee Reports*

1. Conservation Officer Report
  - a. New Requests: None
  - b. Old Requests: None
  - c. Updates:
    - 1) Cemeteries Update: None.
    - 2) 42 Blue bird box requests have been filled and a list of requests has been started for next year's boxes. Carolyn Werge had a few people offer donations for the project. A suggestion was made to request donations next year and use the money to include bird seed with the boxes. The commission agreed to not ask for donations but possibly add to the advertisement where donations can be made. Norma O'Leary received a phone call stating sparrows had taken over the

blue bird box and wanted to know how to get rid of them. The Commission suggested putting up another box.

- 3) Carolyn Werge looked into the regulations for solar farms in Thompson. The Town Planner stated that in 2015 a zoning amendment approved “solar power generation facilities and appurtenances” in all zoning districts pending a special permit.
- 4) Carolyn Werge provided print outs with information regarding protection against gypsy moths.
- 5) Carolyn Werge provided town maps of Dams registered with DEEP, zoning districts with new updates, Aquifer protection Area, and farmland soils.
- 6) The Wyndham Land Trust is looking to acquire additional lands associated with its recent acquisitions in Thompson. Carolyn Werge is providing parcel data and other documents to assist with the WLT’s efforts.

## 2. Other

### *Old Business*

1. Update on previous Conservation reviews: No update.
2. Blue Bird houses: See officers report above.
3. Fabyan Property with “Honor Roll” marker: No update.

### *New Business*

### *Citizens’ Comments*

1. Hap Coman believes we should do everything in our power to keep fracking out of the state and keep it from being transported through the state.

### *Members’ Forum*

1. Ron Tillen provided the Wyndham Land Trust’s newsletter which includes articles about the two acquisitions in Thompson.
2. Norma O’Leary reported the River clean up is April 29.
3. Norma O’Leary discussed the roadside trash cleanup. It runs the entire month of April. For every bag of trash, participants receive a voucher for an ice cream at Bogey’s. For two large bags, participants receive a voucher for a pizza from Quaddick Country Store. The recreation department has the trash bags.
4. Norma O’Leary reported Thompson Together has some funds they would like to spend on stone repairs in the neglected cemeteries in town. It was also suggested to Norma O’Leary that a fundraising page be set up on the internet to collect funds from donors.

### *Announcements*

### *Future Meeting*

1. The next meeting will be held Monday, May 15, 2017 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

### *Adjournment*

1. Bernie Davis moved and Ron Tillen seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. All in favor. The motion carried.

Audrey Witkowski  
Recording Secretary