

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

MINUTES: MAY 19, 2014
TOWN HALL 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

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

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

Guests present: Donald Pimental and Mike Salisbury.

Staff present: Audrey Witkowski and Carolyn Werge.

Approval of Minutes

1. **Bernie Davis moved and Kathy Mitchell seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2014 meeting as presented; the motion carried.**

Financial Matters: None

Correspondence

1. Members received via email:
 - a. Minutes: Conservation Commission, April 21, 2014.
 - b. Agenda: Conservation Commission, May 19, 2014.
2. Outgoing Mail: None
3. Incoming Mail: None

Officer and Committee Reports

1. Conservation Officer Report
 - a. New Requests: None
 - b. Old Requests: None
 - c. It was noted that a technical error was made for voting to place an Executive Session item on the April agenda prior to voting to go into Executive Session.
 - d. The Commission is still waiting for a written response or comment from Attorney St. Onge on the liability of volunteers assisting with cemetery maintenance. The item will be pursued with First Selectman Paul Lenky.
 - e. The Conservation Commission Ordinance language has been resolved by Town Counsel. The document has been prepared for the selectman to bring to Town Meeting.
 - f. The meeting of Bernie Davis, Phil Thomas and Carolyn Werge with First Selectman Paul Lenky for the Conservation Website has been scheduled for May 21 at 11:30am.
 - g. Allan Rawson has contacted Carolyn Werge about his proposed land donation and conservation easement in East Thompson. Carolyn Werge indicated they need to review the easement area with Mr. Messier.
 - h. Cemeteries Project
 - i. Poor Farm Cemetery: Carolyn Werge drafted a narrative and scanned relevant documents to be posted after they have been reviewed. Lynn Landry's father recalls permission being given in the 1930's for a garden to be created within the cemetery and removal of several stones.
 - ii. Junia Joslin Cemetery: State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni and his crew visited the site on May 19 with the several Conservation Commission members. The findings were inconclusive as the site is overgrown and the ground penetrating equipment unusable. His recommendation is to consider it a cemetery and treat it as such.
 - iii. Whittemore Cemetery: Norma O'Leary reports the stone wall and clearing is almost complete.
 - i. The mapping software linked to the Assessors Database has been updated with 2012 aerial photos. Updates to cover changes from 2008 to present are necessary. Carolyn Werge will first discuss this with the selectman.

Ron Tillen moved and Bernie Davis seconded the motion to authorize the Conservation Commission spending of \$400-\$450 towards updating the mapping software changes from 2008 to present.

- j. Carolyn Werge reports the mapping request for the First Selectman of all town owned parcels is half done.
- k. Sue Vincent from the Historical Society has requested an aerial map to overlay a mylar map from the survey on top.
- l. The Trails Committee has been looking for a canoe launch on the French River off of Wilsonville Road. This location was found unsuitable. First Selectman Lenky proposed a site off of Riverside Drive. The Conservation Commission would like to carry out a site walk.

Old Business

- a. Update on previous Conservation reviews: None
- b. Blue Birdhouses: No progress
- c. Fabyan Property "Honor Roll Memorial": No progress

New Business

- 1. Requests for Review of Potential Development Proposals: None

Public Forum:

- 1. Donald Pimental of Star Road and Mike Salisbury of Starr Road brought to the attention of the Conservation Commission a possible historic Colonial Village at the end of Starr Road they and their other neighbors would like preserved. They are concerned the current owner of the land will disturb the site or the wetlands that are also present. No application has been submitted by the current owner for further development.

Members' Forum: None

Announcements: None

Future Meeting

- 1. The next meeting will be held Monday, June 16, 2014 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Adjournment

- 1. Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM.



Audrey Witkowski
Recording Secretary