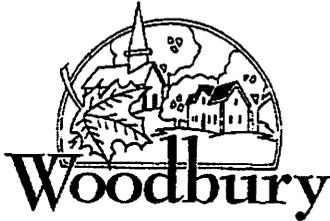


# TOWN OF WOODBURY

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

281 Main Street South  
Woodbury, Connecticut 06798-0369  
(203)263-3467 ~ www.woodburyct.org



First land deed from the Indians  
April 12th 1659

### WOODBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2019 8:00 A.M. – SHOVE BUILDING, 281 MAIN ST. SOUTH

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. Taylor, Chairman  
D. Schultz  
L. Peters  
J. Sherman  
L. Arno  
L. Pittari

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

A.Musso

#### 1. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. A quorum was established.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

##### MOTION:

*L. Peters made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. J. Sherman seconded the motion. The September minutes were unanimously approved.*

*Vote: 6-0-0.*

#### 3. CORRESPONDENCE

- Chairman Taylor brought attention to an article in the Voices newspaper regarding the spotted lanternfly, an invasive sap-feeding plant hopper. All members should be aware of and familiar with this insect. The Commission should post the information in order to educate the public regarding invasive insects.
- The Habitat Forum publication from CASCIW was distributed.
- A memo from Ken Faroni, Agent of O& G Industries, Inc., was read by Chairman Taylor. The memo informed the Commission that there will be a scheduled public hearing held November 12, 2019, at the Senior Center regarding the bi-annual special permit requirement for Earth Excavations. The complete application is on file in the Land Use Department.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

**a) Discussion of POCD implementation tables**

- Chairman Taylor addressed the members regarding POCD 8.0 Implementation Summary dated 10/10/19. He would like the members to consider what actions the Commission can reasonably perform and to consider if there is a need to increase the size of the Commission.
- Section 1.1- The Commission discussed how they are the lead organization for identifying and coordinating critical improvements and maintenance needed at town-owned open space properties. While this is positive, it raises several questions, such as is this to include all areas or only areas directly affected by Conservation, does this also include the parks and playing fields, is this a one-time assessment or is it ongoing?
- The Commission felt this may be a project that they need to enlist volunteer help with as long as at least one Commission member is present. The possibility of a task force may be helpful in performing the initial assessments. The Commission hopes that they may be able to work with other departments in regards to weed killers and fertilizers used in town open space areas. However, the concern is if there will be a budget for these items. D. Schultz felt that the public needs to be involved in deciding these issues. If the majority of the townspeople would like more conservation and green practices implemented, then they need to be informed that those choices may cost more. The consensus was that Chairman Taylor will discuss these matters with the Selectman and Land Use Departments and possibly set up a meeting with the other departments involved. He will also discuss a possible liaison with the Planning Commission to ensure that updates are received.
- After much deliberation regarding the wording of the strategy, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:**

*L. Arno moved and D. Schultz seconded for the wording in sections 1.1 to be “The Conservation Commission should recommend to the ....”*

*Vote: 6-0-0 in favor.*

- Section 1.2 – Discussion ensued regarding how and from where the Commission is to procure resources. There is a need to identify and advise on what the resources are. The Commission was not aware that they could work with the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments and what would be the mechanism for doing so. The Commission needs to obtain more information on this matter. After further discussion regarding the wording of the strategy, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:**

*L. Arno moved and L. Pittari seconded to change the wording of section 1.2 as follows: “....to identify and recommend resources...”*

*Vote: 6-0-0 in favor.*

- Sections 1.3, 1.4 and 3.2 – The Commission agreed that the wording and plans are good for these sections.

- Sections 3.3 & 3.4 – Discussion ensued regarding the Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition. They are an independent, non-profit organization. The Commission will work with the Watershed Plan established by the PRWC in order to implement the recommendations. There was much discussion regarding the wording of the strategy.
- L. Peters started to make a motion which L. Arno seconded. There was discussion amongst the Commission regarding that the Watershed Plan is a living document. The motion was withdrawn by L. Peters and L. Arno and the following motion was made:

**MOTION:**

*L. Arno moved and L. Peters seconded to capitalize “Watershed Plan”*

*Vote: 6-0-0 in favor.*

- Section 4.1 – The Commission agreed that these are good actions for the Commission to take. However, in order to facilitate, funding would be needed. The Commission feels that they need to discuss implementation of these actions with the consultant.
- The subject of capitalization of the word “town” in this section prompted the following motion:

**MOTION:**

*L. Arno moved and D. Schulze seconded to capitalize the word “Town” in section 1.1.*

*Vote: 6-0-0 in favor.*

- Section 4.2 – Chairman Taylor and L. Peters like the idea of working with the BOE. D. Schultz feels that it is disrespectful to the BOE. They consensus was that while it is a good idea, the wording is not good. It may be better to establish a relationship with the students. There is a direct relationship between the environment and the VO-AG program available that is being established. Since the Commission is not the lead, they will not alter anything.
- Section 5.1 – Discussion ensued amongst the Commission regarding identified area in the region to protect. The consensus is to work with the POCD and Flanders to identify specific areas. Individual parcels should not be identified. However identifying “areas” such as ridgelines or waterways, etc. is appropriate.

**MOTION:**

*L. Pittari moved and L. Peters seconded to reword section 5.1 as follows:*

*“...Identify how town-owned properties strategically contribute to the plan.”*

*Vote: 6-0-0 in favor.*

- Section 5.2 – Discussion regarding the strategy led to the consensus that the Planning Commission should be a co-lead on this strategy.

## **MOTION:**

*L. Peters moved and J. Sherman seconded to make the Planning Commission a co-lead on the strategy of section 5.2*

*Vote: 6-0-0 in favor.*

### **b) Conservation Talks**

- L. Pittari gave an update on the organizing of the conservation talks. She has found someone to speak on the topic of bears, but is in need for speakers on the topics of pesticides, pollinators and composting. It is hard to plan around the town meeting calendar since the calendar for 2020 has not been posted. The discussion resulted in that the first and last weeks of the month are generally more open.

### **c) Trout Unlimited Grant**

- Chairman Taylor informed the Commission that the grant had come through. The foundation is interested in riparian conditions along the Pomperaug River. Planning will occur next month. Also the Commission will try to look into the Long Island Futures Fund grant.
- The farm leases are looking into changing the length of the lease. They are also open to discussion regarding using environmentally friendly pesticides in the Three Rivers area.

### **d) Pomperaug River / Judson St. Bridge**

- The debris clearing at the Judson St. Bridge is scheduled for 10/29 & 10/30/19.

The New Business items of (e) Newsletter, (f) Town-wide composting and (g) Clean-up day results were not covered due to lack of time.

## **5. ONGOING BUSINESS**

No discussion took place regarding ongoing business due to lack of time.

## **6. MEMBER TIME**

No discussion took place due to lack of time

## **7. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

No comments were made from the public

## **8. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held November 21, 2019, at 8:00 a.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

L. Arno made a motion to adjourn, J. Sherman seconded the motion. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

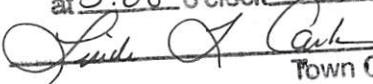
Respectfully Submitted,



Robyn Wright  
Clerk for the Conservation Commission

*Copies of documents and meeting audio are available at the Land Use Office*

RECEIVED & FILED  
IN WOODBURY, CT

This 28 day of Oct 2019  
at 3:00 o'clock P M  
  
Town Clerk