

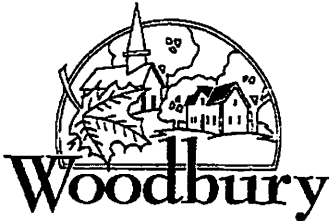
TOWN OF WOODBURY

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 TUESDAY, February 1, 2022 7:00 p.m., – Shove Building, 281 Main Street South

MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. Taylor, Chairman
D. Schultz
L. Peters
J. Sherman
T. Clark
D. West

MEMBERS ABSENT:

A. Musso (*on leave of absence*)

1. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Taylor began the meeting at 7:04 p.m. A quorum was established.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Taylor presented the minutes of the January 4, 2022, Conservation Commission meeting. He called for discussion. J. Sherman questioned a statement under the HWA project.

MOTION:

To approve the minutes of the January 4, 2022, Conservation Commission meeting as amended:

- Section 4.b- paragraph 2, 2nd sentence should read: "...walking the Trolley Bed property and Bethel Rock."

Made by L.Peters, Seconded by D. West

Vote: 6-0-0 – Approved – Motion Passed

Ayes: Taylor, West, Peters, Sherman, Schultz, Clark

Nays: None

Abstain: None

3. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence at this time.

4. CURRENT BUSINESS

a) Calendar Issue

Chairman Taylor stated that the calendar issue was resolved. He will be away for the March meeting. J. Sherman will run the meeting in his place.

b) Earth Day Plans

Chairman Taylor noted a flier from the Watershed Coalition announcing the Earth Day celebration to be held on April 30, 2022, at Hollow Park from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Commission consensus was to send it an application to have a display. There was discussion of what has been done in the past and what they would like to present this year. The Commission brainstormed ideas about the composting display and giving away cups of dirt with seeds for the kids. T. Clarke suggested the idea of a free raffle of a home composting kit. L. Peters will take care of the composting items, along with an awning and tables etc. J. Sherman will bring some hemlock branches with Hemlock Woolly Adelgids on it. He will also try to have a display of some objects from the mine projects. Discussion continued about open space maps, walking maps and a possible handout from the Northwest Conservation District on how trees protect our drinking water.

c) Library Display Plans

Discussion of the library display happened somewhat concurrently with the Earth Day plans since the same items will be featured. The Commission worked out the schedule for setting up the library display and then removing it to set it up at Earth Day. The library display will consist of the mine project pictures and rocks, composting, the HWA projects and some pictures of hikeable trails. There will hopefully be some handouts and some QR codes for video links. The Commission will bring items to the March meeting. Set up is tentative for March 31st.

d) HWA Project

J. Sherman gave an update on the project. Tree Savers who supplies the predator beetles was running a special. J. Sherman passed this information onto some residents. One resident will be treating his hemlocks at his own expense. J. Sherman will help him with the application. He hopes to get out to Sherwood Forest and Castle Rock within the next week or so in order to put together the proposal for the Town properties. He will also be meeting with the operations manager of O&G. He knows that there are hemlocks on O&G land and he hopes to walk their properties and open up a discussion so they are aware. D. Schultz noted that there was a line item of \$2700 for the HWA project in the Town budget. J. Sherman wants to be very systematic and thorough as to how much is ordered, what locations have applications and what the progress is.

T. Clarke noted that she hiked Orenaug Park from the tower down to the pond and there were infestations everywhere. It would be a good location to treat. D. West inquired of placing multiple orders in order to take advantage of the bonus special. J. Sherman will try to put in an order within the next week or so.

e) Municipal Composting

L. Peters did not have much to update on this project. She will continue to gather information for household and restaurant composting. D. West mentioned several organizations in town are interested in composting and maybe a collaboration with other groups could help to have a Town

discussion. L. Peters said that is a good long term goal. The hope is that with the library display and Earth Day it will help raise awareness and open up conversation on the topic.

f) EDA American Rescue Grant

Chairman Taylor recommended that the Commission should bring their ideas for the grant to the First Selectman's office rather than try to make it happen on their own. D. West noted that to make a project work there has to be a project team with representation from the different organizations such as Inlands Wetlands, Parks & Recreation, Planning and Public Works to have a structured plan and everyone work together. She thinks it would be very difficult to proceed forward and get the EDA Grant. She noted an article in the Waterbury Republican January 20th edition regarding Bethlehem and their work on how to spend the town's ARPA money. The town has hired a consultant firm to facilitate and create a master plan based on resident's input, along with costs for a given project. Woodbury has also now formed a committee to oversee allocation of ARPA money. D. West recommends asking the committee to fund a consultant to create a master plan for the Trolley Bed property. While there is a management plan for certain aspects of the property, it would be beneficial to have an overall master plan with a proposed cost to facilitate the plans. Chairman Taylor supports this action and thinks they should be specific on what they are asking for. D. West will start drafting a request.

D. Schultz looked at the Trolley Bed management plan and part of it includes a "Friend of the Trolley Bed" group to help maintain the property. He suggested trying to get interest in a group together at Earth Day.

g) Open Space Issues (if any)

There were no other Open Space issues to discuss at this time.

5. MEMBER TIME

L. Peters spoke of the annual Fire Department Christmas tree burning. She got a call from a resident who thinks this is bad for the environment. She went to see how big the fire was. It was very big with a lot of smoke. She researched burning trees versus chopping into wood chips as mulch. Mulching does release carbon but over a prolonged period of time rather than a large burst of carbon released at once. She recommended the resident to write a letter to the First Selectmen's office. The consensus was that the Commission did not want to take this issue up.

6. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

There were no comments from the public.

7. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

To adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Made by D. Schultz, Seconded by D. West
Consensus of the Commission in favor 6-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Robyn Wright

Robyn Wright
Clerk for the Conservation Commission

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

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BY RECORDS UNIT
FEB 3rd 2022
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Marian Mancini