



# Town of Woodbury Conservation Commission

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## WOODBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

7:00 p.m., – Fire House, 25 Quassak Road

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. Taylor, Chairman  
L. Peters  
J. Sherman  
T. Clark  
C. Aberg

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

D. West  
B. Hickey

### 1. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairman Taylor began the meeting at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Taylor presented the minutes of the March 5, 2024, Conservation Commission meeting. He called for discussion. L. Peters had some corrections as follows:

- Section 4.d – 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph: “Inlands Wetlands Association” should be “Inland Wetlands Agency”
- Section 5 – 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph- should read: “...attending the CT Composting Conference on March 14<sup>th</sup>.”

### **MOTION:**

To approve the minutes of the March 5, 2024, Conservation Commission meeting as amended.

Made by L. Peters, Seconded by T. Clark

Vote: 5-0-0 – Approved – Motion Passed

Ayes: Taylor, Sherman, Clark, Peters, Aberg

Nays: None

Abstain: None

### **3. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to consider.

Chairman Taylor stated that he needed to change the agenda. He called for a motion.

#### **MOTION:**

To change the agenda to eliminate “Pollinator Pathway” under CURRENT BUSINESS, and to replace it with “Earth Day”

Made by J. Sherman, Seconded by L. Peters

Vote: 5-0-0 – Approved – Motion Passed

Ayes: Taylor, Sherman, Clark, Peters, Aberg

Nays: None

Abstain: None

### **4. CURRENT BUSINESS**

#### **a) Earth Day**

The members went over who would be bringing what. Chairman Taylor is looking to get a large 24” x 30” map of Woodbury with main roads and lots on it. He hopes to include the public and indicate where pollinator gardens are on the map. There will be a raffle for a compost bin held. There will also be the new orange and green garbage bags for demonstrating. Waste Zero asked to be in the booth next door and have a game to play for the trash program. There are no more invasive species brochures. C. Aberg asked about getting “No Mow May” signs made up. The Commission decided that there were not funds to have them made to hand out. Chairman Taylor suggested to contact the PRWC and ask to borrow their signs to display as a talking point. The Commission could decide later about making a line item for signs next year.

#### **b) Town Clean-Up Day**

J. Sherman stated that he sent press releases to the Voices and the Republic American. He has all the gear, vests, and plates for the day. He has contacted Kathy Green at the high school and Monica Goti of the Cub Scouts again to drum up support. There was some good feedback on the street signs. T. Clark posted it on her Facebook page. Chairman Taylor will be picking up the orange and green garbage bags for passing out. There was discussion over some safe areas that smaller kids can help clean up. Pizza will arrive around 11:00 a.m.

#### **c) Three Rivers Park Restoration**

Chairman Taylor and J. Sherman are sitting on the Three Rivers Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee for the project. The Committee is currently working on possible funds from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The NRCS does not deal directly with municipalities any longer and would need to go through a lessee. There is discussion with Logue Farms on the matter, which would only apply to the larger lower section and not the area across the river or along the Nonnewaug. The funds would be used for repairing the banks and the riparian area of 100-150 feet. This could affect what would be planted on the fields. T. Clark noted that so many people in town value the property and would probably help fund the project. Chairman Taylor noted there are two areas near collapse that the Committee is looking at. J. Sherman explained how the berm

had worked for the most part, but during heavy storms it created channels which increased water velocity that washed everything away. It is preferred to remove the berm and have gradual flooding and recession rather than channels. Chairman Taylor clarified the IWA minutes for L. Peters on stabilizing the soil and bank.

**d) Library Display**

Chairman Taylor thanked all who helped set it up.

**e) Stomski Way**

J. Sherman stated that there is nothing new. He hopes to be meeting with Peter Picone in May to discuss how to manage the tilling. He noted that to the right of the property is a very nice example of a working riparian buffer. T. Clark asked if there was any update on the gate. Chairman Taylor stated there is nothing definitive yet.

**f) HWA**

J. Sherman stated that nothing will be done this year. He knows that the adelgids will eventually come back, but for now they are gone.

**g) Next Newsletter**

C. Aberg stated that the newsletter will be out after April 15<sup>th</sup>. She will add the hike scheduled by the PRWC on June 15, 2024, from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to Nonnewaug Falls, where J. Sherman will be talking about the HWA research site.

**h) Open Space Issues**

T. Clark talked about the free app Rambler that Steep Rock uses for their trail monitoring. The app tracks you on the trail and you can add notes or videos. When you're done, you load it and email it. The Commission was very interested in trying this out. T. Clark will try it out on Clean-up Day and send a report to test it out.

Chairman Taylor produced a list of Open Space parcels that the members should be looking at. The list does not include any easements. He is hoping that everyone picks some spots and start monitoring any issues, new trails formed, dumping etc. He has suggested to the Public Works Department that they put up signs at the parks with a number to call if there are any problems. Chairman Taylor reminded the members that they are not enforcement, and to not stop anyone doing something, but to notify the town. Each member chose an area to start with.

**5. MEMBER TIME**

T. Clark asked if there is a hike on the radar for Connecticut Trails Day. Since C. Aberg is calling the PRWC for other reasons, she will ask if they would like any support for their hike.

L. Peters said the CT Composting Conference was good. Chairman Taylor said the CLCC conference was good also.

**6. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

There were no comments from the floor.

**7. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2024.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**

To adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Made by J. Sherman, Seconded by C. Aberg  
Consensus of the Commission in favor 5-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

*Robyn Wright*

Robyn Wright  
Clerk for the Conservation Commission

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

RECEIVED & FILED  
IN WOODBURY, CT  
This 4<sup>th</sup> day of Apr 2024  
at 3:02 o'clock PM  
Maria M. Mancini  
Town Clerk