

# TOWN OF WOODBURY

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
281 Main Street South  
Woodbury, CT 06798  
(203)263-3467 ~ www.woodburyct.org

## MINUTES – AUGUST 23, 2018 REGULAR MEETING - 7:30 P.M. SHOVE BUILDING, 281 MAIN STREET SOUTH

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lawrence Arno  
Annie Musso  
Lesa Peters  
Jeff Sherman  
David Taylor, Chairman

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Skip Hobson  
Dick Leavenworth

**Also Present:** Kathy Doyle

### 1. Determination of Quorum

Chairman Taylor convened the meeting at 8:04 a.m. A quorum was established.

### 2. Approval of July Meeting Minutes

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the July 26, 2018 Meeting  
Made by Member Peters, Seconded by Member Sherman

Member Arno stated that his name is noted as being present at the meeting, however, he was absent from that meeting.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the July 26, 2018 Meeting with the removal of L. Arno from the attendance.

Vote: 5-0-0 in favor

### 3. New Business

#### a) POCD Discussion – pp. 19-34

Chairman Taylor stated that on page 19, the third bullet addresses implementation of Low Impact Development. He noted the Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition's (PRWC) presentation from the previous evening, stating that they should seek to get this up on the Town's website, as well as getting it included in the new POCD. There's a section that goes into LID with some good points. It was noted that the PRWC is accepting comments before August 31, 2018. The last bullet in that section speaks to working cooperatively with the PRWC and to integrate a Watershed Management Plan. They do not have a plan; the Conservation Commission should think about this.

#### b) Updating OS Subdivision Regulations

This item was put on hold.

**c) Bethel Rock Trail**

Americore is scheduled to be in Woodbury on September 20, 2018. They will be cleaning up the trail and designing it. Chairman Taylor felt it was a good idea for the Commission to walk the site and provide input regarding the design of the trail. Americore is a group of young volunteers that have been scheduled by Parks & Recreation to do labor with guidance. The Commission will schedule a time and date to go out and look at the trail.

**d) Fall Festival**

The Fall Festival is scheduled for September 30, 2018. They should get the word out. Maybe in the future the Commission should consider participating in the event.

**e) Conservation Page on Town Website**

It was noted that the page has not been updated.

**4. Old Business**

**a. Newsletter** – *Discussion took place later in the meeting.*

**b. Open Space**

**Sherwood Forest**

DEEP announced 2018-19 CT Recreation Trails Program Funding. Proposals are due by October 31, 2018. Council of Governments will help, descriptions are due by October 1, 2018. Chairman Taylor felt that this would be good for Sherwood Forest based on the length of trail and the access. Another good use could be to fix the Trolley Bed, use the funding to fix the erosion issues caused by run off. DEEP already knows about the property, they wouldn't need to sell them on the value of the property.

**Nonnewaug Falls**

Member Sherman discussed the erosion damage and that you can see where the bike trails have caused gullies that flow to the river. A wide trail has formed at the bottom part of the river. The Planner spoke with the Police and the land owner will try to mitigate. At his most recent trip to the Falls, Member Sherman did not see current use of quads. The area has gotten worse from erosion, it could use "shoring up." Trails will become gullies into the river. Erosion could affect the water supply.

Member Sherman also spoke about seeing Japanese Knotweed at Stomski's Way. There appears to be three patches of it found within about 100 yards to the river. There was discussion about how to remove the invasive species and the safest way to do so with its proximity to the river. It was noted that there was money from DEEP for that property.

**Castle Rock**

Member Sherman discussed the idea of a bridge from the Hollow to Castle Rock and that it would probably require a substantial engineered bridge. It was questioned how they could get funding for this if they could get state funding or they may need to consider a

donation fund specifically for the bridge. Chairman Taylor noted that a whole plan would be needed, once you get the bridge, you'll also need trails.

### **Trolley Bed Preserve – Beaver Pond Issue**

There are many dead maple trees. It should be determined if it is truly a beaver issue. It was discussed that they could have the Enforcement Officer, along with someone from Parks and Recreation out there to walk the site.

#### **c. Low Impact Development**

#### **d. Invasive Plants**

Member Peters stated that Selectman Hale asked her to investigate a parasitic plant called “Dodder.” She shared her findings with the Commission. Apparently, a member of the public has spotted it somewhere between Young’s and The Garden. It was questioned if it should be reported to DEEP.

Member Musso asked to go back to the Newsletter part of the agenda, asking for help with more content. Items included the Town Clean Up Day, a Hazardous Waste Day scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>, a CT Hiking Day in October, DEEP Sky’s the Limit Hiking Challenge, Discover Outdoor CT Day, etc. It was noted that ACE in Woodbury will accept your old paint cans, this should be included. It was decided that each newsletter they will spotlight an Open Space Parcel. It was decided that Member Sherman will help write up something regarding Stomski’s Way.

For the next meeting, Chairman Taylor requested that everyone review the POCD for input.

### **5. Member Time**

Chairman Taylor stated that he was contacted by the Roxbury Conservation Commission. They are interested in being interactive with the towns around them. They are hoping to get Dan Este to come in to discuss economic development in small towns. To book him, they need to have high participation numbers.

### **6. Correspondence**

Correspondence from CACWIC was noted.

### **7. Privilege of the Floor**

Kathy Doyle – Ms. Doyle noted that she has seen that people use goats as a natural way to remove invasive plants. She stated that she liked the idea of the bridge (to connect the Hollow and Castle Rock) and suggested that they consider adding it to part of the POCD long term plan for trail connectivity along the river. The Army Core of Engineers would need to be involved with the pond. She also noted that it should be assessed when trails are created who will be responsible to maintain them.

**8. Next Meeting Agenda Items**

Add to the agenda Town Clean Up on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

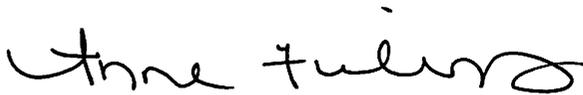
**9. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Made by Member Arno

Filed subject to approval.

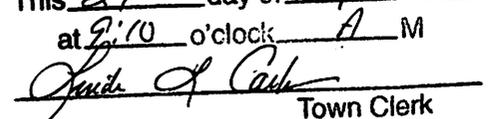
Respectfully submitted



Anne Firlings, Administrative Assistant  
Land Use Office

RECEIVED & FILED  
IN WOODBURY, CT

This 24 day of Aug 2018  
at 9:10 o'clock A M

  
Town Clerk