



WILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Jackie Algon (CHAIR), Frank Simone, Colleen O'Brien, Jeff Lapnow

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs; Dave Francefort, Volunteer; Matt Brand, Resident

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Algon.

II. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES – Lynne Vanderslice

Ms. Algon noted Ms. Vanderslice could not attend, so she reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Commission on her behalf. The Tree Committee will be disbanded as their charge has been completed. A discussion ensued for the need of an Invasive/Native Plant Committee.

III. PLANNING AND ZONING REFERRALS – None

III. INLAND WETLAND REFERRALS

A. WET#2759(S) MORENO – 269 Millstone Road – proposed addition, pool, patio, outdoor kitchen and shower, pervious pavement and plantings within an upland review area

Mr. Conklin reviewed the plans noting the site was under a Cease & Desist with the former owner.

Commissioners agreed they would like to visit the site prior to submitting comments. A Special Meeting for this walk will be scheduled.

IV. DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS REFERRAL – None

a. State Project 0173-0510 – Wilton – Route 106 (Wolfpit Road) at Horseshoe Road and Range Road

Mr. Conklin reviewed the proposal and confirmed this intersection was before the Commission several years ago under the auspices of the Norwalk River Valley Trail.

Commissioners do not have any comments.

IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. Walks & Talks -

Ms. Algon noted the walk discussed at the last meeting with a bonfire at Schenck's Island including hot chocolate, s'mores and live music should be postponed for January due to the current COVID-19 surge.

Ms. Algon and Ms. O'Brien will connect to discuss possible talks via Zoom in the interim.

b. Work with other Commissions/Committees

i) Tree Committee – Ms. Algon noted two donated trees were recently planted. Mr. Conklin noted he would like to move the Amelanchier shrub recently planted as the location disturbs a previous planting plan. The Board of Village Walk Condos is willing to offer a location for it at their northern entryway. The Tree Committee indicated their concern that moving the shrub will damage it.

ii) Deer Committee – Mr. Conklin noted the hunt is ongoing and harvest numbers have increased since the December meeting.

c. Planning & Zoning Liaison Report – Nothing to report.

d. Draft Native Plant Ordinance – Ms. Algon noted she and Mr. Simone will meet to discuss moving this effort to Planning & Zoning.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Bradley Park Trail Discussion – Dave Francefort, FCNEMBA

Mr. Francefort reviewed his volunteerism in Wilton and advised the Commission that sustainable trails he creates are for multi-purpose park users. His group is looking to stabilize trails at Bradley Park and close rogue trails.

Having heard the proposal, the Commission agreed to discuss the proposal at their next regular meeting.

b. Allen's Meadow Proposal – Matt Brand

Mr. Brand reviewed his background and proposal for Allen's Meadows. He described the stone bridge over the Goetchen's Brook is blocked with invasives within a 1,600 sq. ft. patch that he would like to clear out and replant to provide a better trail for walkers.

The Commissioners agreed to discuss the proposal at their next regular meeting.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2021

Ms. O'Brien MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2021 as drafted, SECONDED by Mr. Lapnow and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

VIII. ADJOURN – Mr. Lapnow MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:52pm, SECONDED by Ms. O'Brien and CARRIED 4-0-0 with all in favor.

Next regular meeting will be February 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Larkin, Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs