

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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TOWN HALL

238 Danbury Road

Wilton, Connecticut 06897

## WILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.

### TOWN HALL ANNEX - ROOM A

#### MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Susan Diloreto (Chair), Jade Hobson, Frank Simone, Jeff Lapnow, Colleen O'Brien

ALSO PRESENT: Mike Conklin, Director Environmental Affairs

ABSENT: Jackie Algon (notified of intended absence)

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Diloreto called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.
- II. PLANNING & ZONING REFERRALS - None
- III. INLAND WETLANDS REFERRALS

Ms. DiLoreto advised the new process for department referrals.

- A. **WET#2612(S) SULLIVAN – 356 Nod Hill Road** – “corrective action” to address excavation of a wetland and grading in the front yard

Mr. Conklin advised how the violation occurred and nature of the activity. The Commissioners viewed the plans and agreed that the Inland Wetlands Commissioners will most likely deny the application for being inadequate without replanting trees and removing the fill material.

#### IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a. **Parks Reports** – Mr. Conklin reported that Zen Herter is out in the parks checking for issues after every storm.
- b. Conservation Activity Log Updates

**Horseshoe Pond Management** – Nothing to report.

**Walks & Talks** – The next walk will be held on January 26, 2020 at 1pm at Cherry Lane park led by Ms. O'Brien.

**Kent Pond Management** – Nothing to report.

**Schenck's Island Plan** – Milone & MacBroom provided the final concept plans at the last meeting. Town departments are deciding what can be built in-house and prioritizing the activities.

c. Work with other Commissions/Committees

- i. **TREE COMMITTEE** – Ms. DiLoreto reported the flailing machine mowing being completed by the power company is causing huge undergrowth of invasives on the right-of-ways of most of the town. The cutting is done for safety, and the Tree Warden, Mr. Cherichetti, is handling this aesthetic issue for the town.

A tree management plan is being created for a rotating schedule for long-term management of the trees in Town Center.

- ii. **DEER COMMITTEE** – Mr. Lapnow reported the hunters are not seeing as many deer this year as in years past. A discussion about collecting harvest data ensued.

d. Planning and Zoning Liaison Report

Nothing new to report.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Conservation Commission Goals & Objectives

Mr. Conklin advised the BOS Priorities that was distributed can be used as a model to produce new goals and objectives for the Conservation Commission for 2020. He asked Commissioners to select three of their own priority objectives to be discussed at the next meeting.

b. Town Forest Dog Walkers Update

The Town's Animal Control Officer has been ticketing walkers that are not using a leash.

c. Ridgefield Conservation Commission – Alternates Discussion

Ms. DiLoreto spoke to the Ridgefield Conservation Commission about how they benefit from having alternates on their board. She asked that members try to obtain someone from the Wilton Land Conservation Trust for the current open position.

d. SIMM Committee Update

No update.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Meeting Minutes December 4, 2019

Ms. DiLoreto requested the following revision:

- C. ii Tree Committee- second sentence should read as follows:

The Committee is working to list tree donations on a Tree Committee

designated web page. The list could include specific memorial statements, if requested by donor, in addition to the brick markers.

Ms. O'Brien MOVED to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes above as amended, SECONDED by Mr. Lapnow and CARRIED 5-0-0.

- XI. ADJOURN** – Ms. Hobson MOVED to ADJOURN at 8:15pm, SECONDED by Mr. Lapnow and CARRIED 5-0-0.

Next meeting will be February 5, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Larkin, Recording Secretary, Environmental Affairs