

Branford Conservation and Environment Commission
P.O. Box 150
Branford Town Hall
Branford, Connecticut

MINUTES

***WEDNESDAY, January 8, 2020 - Special Meeting
7:30 P.M. JOSEPH TRAPASSO COMMUNITY HOUSE
FIRST FLOOR ACTIVITY ROOM
30-48 CHURCH STREET, BRANFORD, CT***

The meeting started at 7:33 p.m.

Present: Chairman Karen Hannon, Co-Chairman Dan Fitzgerald, Adrian Bonenberger,
Carol Kaminsky, Eleanor Saulys

Absent: Karyl Lee Hall, Patrick Sweeney

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. December 4, 2019 meeting minutes
Comm. Kaminsky made a motion to approve the 12-4-19 meeting minutes as Amended.
Comm. Bonenberger seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
2. Correspondence and Announcements
 - A. Audubon Magazine was distributed.
3. New Business:

Nothing new to discuss.
4. Budget:
 - A. Fiscal year 2019 - year to date
Chairman Hannon briefly reviewed the 2 open purchase orders.
5. Continuing Business:
 - A. Permits for coastal projects
None
 - B. Proposed developments and other building projects
A new Aldi Supermarket and Chase Bank are proposed off Exit 53
 - C. Invasive plant control
Comm. Kaminsky mentioned the area on South Montowese (between the Railroad tracks and the Branford River) and the problem with mugwort there.
 - D. Natural Resource Inventory (next publication 2023)
Comm. Saulys suggested contacting Roman Sajack (Teacher at UNH) since he may know if there are any students available to assist with the project.
 - E. Branford Festival
The Commission agreed that the Pollinator Pathway will be the main topic. Co-Co-Chair Fitzgerald suggested that the plants that will be distributed be slightly

smaller than the ones that were given out this year.

Chairman Hannon said she will compile a picture board of caterpillars.

F. Animal Ordinance

Chairman Hannon said she would like to meet with Jaymie Cosgrove and discuss the animal shelter. She noted that there are so many stray animals that the shelter needs to expand but what is the town doing to promote responsible pet ownership? Also, it may be proactive to discuss cat issues as well. She also wants to address the problem of the wording with the roaming dog ordinance.

G. Pollinator Pathway

The meetings for this project are starting and an email with the schedule of meetings is almost complete.

H. Atlantic Wire Site

Comm. Karyl Lee Hall is following up on the progress of this site.

6. Reports:

A. Select Committee for Open Space Acquisition

Bill Horne is stepping down from this Commission. I will email the schedule of the meetings to the new contact person at the Community House.

B. Library books donations

Comm Kaminsky said this project is complete until next Fall.

C. Spill reports

No reports to discuss.

D. Contaminated sites

The Commission mentioned a few sites they were aware of such as: an area near the Stony Creek Brewery and a site on North Main Street.

E. Coastal Resiliency Plan

Nothing new to report.

F. Website

Chairman Hannon said she is setting up a meeting next week with Jenn. Comm. Bonenberger said he is available to meet if needed.

7. Other:

The Commission spoke briefly of the upcoming Earth Day on April 20.

Co-Chair Fitzgerald noted that Shirley McCarthy contacted him with a possible new Commission member. She is a woman who is interested in recycling and is willing to assist with various projects.

Co-Chair Fitzgerald also made a motion to add "Earth Day;" as a new item under Continuing Business.

He would like to coordinate the day with other groups and host a town wide event.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.