

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

## ***MINUTES***

**WEDNESDAY, October 13, 2021 -Special**  
**7:30 P.M.**

To Be Held by remote technology as authorized by Executive Orders 7B and 7I

Commissioners Present: Chairman D. Fitzgerald, P. Sweeney, C.Kaminsky  
C. Day, H. Wells-Sweeney, C. Jasek  
Commissioners Absent: Karyl Lee Hall, H. Wells Sweeney

1. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. June 2, 2021 meeting minutes  
Chairman Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the September 1, 2021 minutes.  
Comm. C. Day seconded the motion which passed unanimously.  
  
Commissioners K. Hannon and C. Kaminsky abstained.
2. Correspondence and Announcements  
No correspondence was reviewed.
3. New Business:  
Nothing new was discussed.
4. Budget:
  - A. Fiscal year 2019 - year to date  
Comm. C. Kaminsky talked of a purchase order for a tree and the various species that can or should be planted.  
The Commission discussed an open purchase order for landscaping. Comm. K Hannon said she would contact Pau; Blackstone and report back at the next meeting.  
  
Chairman Fitzgerald discussed funds available for a shed to be placed on the Learning Center property for the storage of the Commissions tools and supplies.  
He will have more information at the next meeting.  
He then discussed other possible purchases such as lightweight wagons, knee pads, etc.
5. Continuing Business:
  - A. Permits for coastal projects- None
  - B. Proposed developments and other building projects-  
Chairman Fitzgerald noted that an Amazon building application has been received for Commercial Parkway. Maybe the Commission can suggest that native plants be used in the landscaping plan. He also asked to be put on the Planning & Zoning

agenda list so he will know the dates and times of upcoming meetings.

Another possible project that was discussed is the development of a golf course around Chett's Pond. Chairman Fitzgerald noted that whatever is proposed there, he hoped the space would be available for more residents to enjoy it rather than a limited amount of people if it was a golf course.

C. Invasive plant control –

Comm. P. Sweeney noted they removed the plastic sheeting that was placed to kill invasives and plugs were placed in the ground and then watered. He suggested this fall perhaps smothering the mugwort at the Learning Center. He also said maybe the Commission should plan a few work parties before winter.

D. Natural Resource Inventory (next publication 2023)

Chairman Fitzgerald has asked UConn to assist us with this. He was unable to reach them and will have more information at the next meeting.

E. Branford Festival- No new information to discuss.

F. Animal Ordinance-

Chairman Fitzgerald suggested removing this item from the agenda in November and adding it to the website in order to get more public feedback.

G. Pollinator Pathway-

Chairman Fitzgerald gave a brief update noting there is about a dozen shrubs that should be planted. He spoke of different locations in town that may be suitable.

Comm. C. Day joined the meeting at 8:08 pm.

H. Earth Day- Nothing new to discuss.

I. Crabbing Bridge (Guilford)—

Comm. K. Lee Hall was absent so this will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Reports:

A. Select Committee for Open Space Acquisition-

Chairman Fitzgerald noted that the Medlyn Farm property may have been purchased by the Branford Land Trust. He thinks there may be another parcel left. He will look into it further.

B. Library books donations –

Comm. C. Kaminsky noted the three elementary schools ordered books totaling \$165.33 which is 5 books for each school. The middle and high school book orders are still pending. This program has been purchasing books for the schools for 10 years now and it is going well. The librarians and the schools are happy. She suggested perhaps getting magazine subscriptions for the schools.

The Commission then talked briefly of possibly hosting a zoom presentation to showcase what the Commission does and perhaps have photos.

C. Spill reports- Nothing new to discuss.

D. Contaminated sites- Nothing new to discuss.

E. Coastal Resiliency Plan-

Chairman Fitzgerald noted that the committee is open to anyone who would like to join.

F. Website- Chairman Fitzgerald noted that the Commission is working on this and Debi Mirto from IT will assist.

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7. Other:

A. Chairman Fitzgerald talked of various locations for trail clean up. He noted that the weekend of Oct 23 or Oct 30 would work for having groups go out and clean. He will compose a schedule with dates and locations.

Comm. C. Day suggested asking the scouts to assist. She volunteered to contact them.

She also said that Bill Horne is asking for assistance collecting brush and branches. She will get more info and report back with the dates.

Chairman Fitzgerald noted that the supply pond will be drained this coming weekend and help is needed with the little animals around the pond. He has more details if anyone can assist.

Comm. C. Kaminsky said she will circulate a member list. Please review and let her know of any changes to your information.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by: M.Martin (clerk)