

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

## ***MEETING***

## ***MINUTES***

**WEDNESDAY, November 2, 2022**

**7:30 P.M.**

It was held by remote technology as authorized by Executive Orders 7B and 7I.

Commissioners Present: Heather Wells- Sweeney, Patrick Sweeney, Karyl Lee Hall,  
Carol Kaminsky, Adrian Bonenberger

Chairperson Heather Wells Sweeney noted that they have a guest at the meeting, his name is Neil Goodlad .

Approval of Minutes:

A. September 7, 2022 meeting minutes & October 5, 2022

**Patrick made a motion to approve the September 7 meeting minutes.**

**Adrian Bonenberger seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

It was noted that a correction should be made to the Oct 5 minutes noting the budget purchase order from 2017 was intended for work at Anderson Lookout at South Montowese.

**Carol Kaminsky made a motion to approve the October 5, 2022 minutes as edited.**

**Patrick Sweeney seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

### 2. Correspondence and Announcements

No correspondence was discussed.

Chairperson Heather Wells Sweeney announced that the guest at the meeting is Neil Goodlad who is retired and is Branford part time and Scotland part time.

Neil spoke next and explained he has an extensive background in environmental work and would like to be involved in conservation efforts. He is available by zoom to help and advise the commission. He met the Sweeney's when they were working by the Early Learning Center.

The commissioners welcomed Neil to the group and introduced themselves.

### 3. New Business:

1. CACIWIC Conference- Christie Day, Carol Kaminsky and Heather Wells

Sweeney attended the conference. They spoke a bit about the different topics and lectures they attended which included: Invasives on lakes and Ponds, Hemlocks and how to treat them and Trash and Recycling.

2. Heather Wells Sweeney and Carol Kaminsky joined third graders at Tisko School, along with Jaime Cosgrove and Gary Zelinsky (Public Works). The students are going to start a Pollinator Garden. Carol Kaminsky said she has butterfly weed seeds and she may bring them to the teachers. Heather Wells Sweeney said the librarians were thankful for the books the commission donated.

4. Budget:

A. Fiscal year 2019 - year to date

Chairperson Heather Wells Sweeney noted the only change in the financial information is the purchase of straw bales at a cost of \$119.00 for use at the Pollinator Gardens. She purchased 5 and used 4 so she will return one.

5. Continuing Business:

A. Permits for coastal projects

Nothing new to discuss

B. Proposed developments and other building projects

Nothing new to discuss

C. Invasive Plant Control

Patrick Sweeney noted he will be working that coming Saturday about 9am at Youngs Pond to work on removing Multiflora Rose. This will be a continuation of the work from a previous visit.

D. Natural Resource Inventory (next publication 2023)

Christie Day noted she had emailed the Planning & Zoning Dept. for information and also reached out to the UConn group called "CLEAR".

E. Branford Festival

Nothing new to discuss

F. Pollinator Pathway

Chairperson Heather Wells Sweeney noted that there are Branford High School students that want to help out with this project. She will get more information and report back. She also said there is a scout troop that may help with the removal of invasives.

G. Earth Day

Chairperson Heather Wells Sweeney may purchase a table overlay for table used for public events since it is less expensive than a table cloth.

H. Crabbing Bridge (Guilford)

Nothing was discussed.

6. Reports:

A. Select Committee for Open Space Acquisition

Nothing was discussed.

B. Library books donations

Carol Kaminsky noted the librarian from Walsh school thanked her for the donation.

C. Spill reports

None

D. Contaminated sites

None

E. Coastal Resiliency Plan

Nothing was discussed.

F. Website

Carol Kaminsky said she thought everything was all set to go on the website. She will speak with Debi Mirto in IT Dept. soon to get this done.

7. Other:

A. Tweed Airport Expansion

Karyl Lee Hall said the NEPA Act requires an Environmental Assessment be completed. She said letters have been written requesting more analysis be done. She noted that this commission was one of the first letters that was received and it will be discussed. Save the Shoreline and other groups are involved in this.

Karyl Lee noted that in the next few weeks she will be present at a speaking engagement. She will answer any questions if needed pertaining to the letter the commission sent if the commission agrees to that.

The commission discussed this briefly and agreed to that.

**Carol Kaminsky made a motion to authorize Karyl Lee Hall to speak on behalf of the commission.**

**Patrick Sweeney seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Submitted by: M. Martin  
(Clerk)