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

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2ⁿᵈ, 2018
7:30 P.M. CANOE BROOK SENIOR CENTER
11 CHERRY STREET, BRANFORD, CT

Present: Chairman Karen Hannon, Carol Kaminsky, Dan FitzGerald, Bob Davis, Mike McGuinness and Eleanor Saulys
Absent: Karyl Lee Hall and Jim Yakimoff

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Comm. Davis motioned to approve the January 3ʳᵈ, 2018 minutes; Comm. Saulys seconded. Motion passed unanimously (6-0-0). Commission did not vote on February 7ᵗʰ, 2018 and April 4ᵗʰ, 2018 minutes as there wasn't a quorum for those meetings.

2. **Correspondence and Announcements:** CACIWC Habitat and Aquarion Water Company correspondence

3. **New Business:** none

4. **Budget:**
   A. Discussed that the upcoming year's budget is still in review
   B. Fiscal year 2018 - year to date: need to get the vegetation management and plantings done before the end of June

5. **Continuing Business:**
   A. Permits for coastal projects: nothing new
   B. Proposed developments and other building projects: Commission discussed that they heard about a possible residential project on the open lot on East Main St across from the high school. Mentioned Gould Lane subdivision project that has begun, 250 North Main has applied for phase II of their project with zoning.
   C. Invasive plant control – Comm. Saulys requested commissioners keep their eyes open for people digging up plants on open space properties (i.e. Dutchmen britches) and report them.
   D. Natural Resource Inventory (next publication 2023) – nothing to report
   E. Branford Festival – Commission discussed having handouts for native plants, will have open space map to display, maybe have information on butterfly gardens. Will think on ideas and discuss at next meeting. Chairman Hannon will send a letter to the Chamber about balloons. Discussed they will need to have people at the booth throughout the day, not just setup and take down.

6. **Reports:**
   A. Select Committee for Open Space Acquisition – Comm. Saulys reported there has been a recommendation made by Bill Horne that the town purchase the property west of the Tabor property (Ecology Park).
   B. Library books donations – Comm. Kaminsky reported all books have been received, the

total is $260.86
C. Spill reports – Comm. McGuiness reported that in March there was an anonymous complaint of dumped asphalt at Baldwin Dr
D. Contaminated sites – nothing reported
E. Coastal Resiliency Plan – nothing reported
F. Website – Chairman Hannon spoke with Jenn, they will be adding pictures. Commission discussed adding information about invasives to the website.

7. **Other:**
   A. Arbor Day Celebration – happened last Friday
   B. Branford Clean Up Day – Comm. FitzGerald reported that there was a great turn out. Other parties involved in the event coordination and success included Dan McGowan, the Elementary Schools and the Community Forest Commission. Cost for supplies for the event will be under $200, he will submit next meeting. Early season vegetable starter plants were distributed to people that participated in the cleanup. These plants were received from Vaiuso. Contact information was gathered to help kick off next year's event.
   C. Dog control and waste issues on open space properties – Commission discussed abuse of dogs off leash, particularly at Supply Ponds. Lack of control and extent of dog poop not cleaned up. Spoke with ESDHD and Animal Control and will speak with Parks and Open Space. Discussed replenishing dog waste bags. Discussed roaming at large extends beyond dogs, also a health concern relative to cats. May add this topic to Branford Festival.
   D. Open space database – SCRCOG project – SCRCOG is working on developing a uniform regional database of open space properties. They have been working with Zoning department.

8. **Adjournment:** Comm. Saulys motioned to adjourn at 8:56pm, Comm. McGuinness seconded. Motion passed unanimously (6-0-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaymie Frederick, Board Clerk