

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

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, September 1, 2021

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. Day, H. Wells-Sweeney, K. Lee Hall
Commissioners Absent: C. Kaminsky, K. Hannon, C. Jasek

Chairman Fitzgerald noted that this is a Special Meeting because the Commission needs to vote on the new meeting schedule.

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. June 2, 2021 meeting minutes
Comm. K. Lee Hall made a motion to approve the June 2 minutes.
Comm. C. Day seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
2. Correspondence and Announcements
 1. Acknowledgement of the \$100.00 received for membership.
 2. Acknowledgement of the \$200.00 received for membership.
 3. Acknowledgement of the \$250.00 received for membership.
3. New Business:

Chairman Fitzgerald welcomed Heather Wells-Sweeney to the Commission.
Heather introduced herself and said she was happy to join the Commission.
4. Budget:
 - A. Fiscal year 2019 - year to date
Chairman Fitzgerald reviewed last year's budget information and reviewed all the items that were purchased with the funds.
He then reviewed the new fiscal year information and spoke of possible future purchases to assist with the Pollinator Pathway and invasive plant removal.
The Commission discussed this briefly.

Chairman Fitzpatrick then made a motion to spend \$2500.00 for 2 outstanding purchase orders and the balance for purchasing native plants.
Comm. P. Sweeney seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Chairman Fitzpatrick then made a motion to spend \$500.00 on tools and equipment (wagons, hand tools, shirts, etc.)
Comm. C. Day seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
5. Continuing Business:
 - A. Permits for coastal projects- None

- B. Proposed developments and other building projects-New development on Cherry Hill Rd.
- C. Invasive plant control –
Comm. P. Sweeney noted they removed mugwort and other invasives at the Early Learning Center as well as Anderson Lookout. Clear plastic was also put down to kill invasives then you plant native plants in the fall. He said if this method works well, they should consider using it in other areas.
Chairman Fitzgerald would like to expand the invasive removal effort to other areas of town and would like to begin mid-October.
Comm. H. Wells-Sweeney offered to assist with signage and website advertising for this effort.
- D. Natural Resource Inventory (next publication 2023)
Chairman Fitzgerald has asked UConn to assist us with this. He will have more information at the next meeting.
- E. Branford Festival- No new information to discuss.
- F. Animal Ordinance- Nothing new to discuss.
- G. Pollinator Pathway-
Comm. C. Day said she felt good about all the work that was completed last year for this project.
- H. Earth Day- Nothing new to discuss.
- I. Crabbing Bridge (Guilford)—
Comm. K. Lee Hall stated this project is on hold by DOT (Dept. of Transportation). She said there was an article in the New Haven Register stating there was a Management Study Committee and they determined the entire road should be studied for traffic issues as well as other issues. More information to come.

6. Reports:

- A. Select Committee for Open Space Acquisition- Nothing new to discuss.
- B. Library books donations – Nothing new to discuss.
- C. Spill reports- Nothing new to discuss.
- D. Contaminated sites- Nothing new to discuss.
- E. Coastal Resiliency Plan- K. Lee Hall would like to invite Peter Henstchel to attend a meeting and speak to the Commission
- F. Website- Chairman Fitzgerald noted that Comm. H. Wells Sweeney will assist with the new website.

7. Other:

- A. Approval of 2021-2022 Meeting Schedule
Chairman Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the new meeting schedule.
Comm. C. Jasek seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:40
Submitted by: M.Martin (clerk)