Branford Conservation and Environment Commission

P.O. Box 150 Branford Town Hall Branford, Connecticut

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MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5th, 2017 7:30 P.M. CANOE BROOK SENIOR CENTER 11 CHERRY STREET, BRANFORD, CT

Present: Chairman Karen Hannon, Mike McGuinness, Eleanor Saulys, Karyl Lee Hall, Dan FitzGerald and Jonathan Katz

Absent: Carol Kaminsky, Jim Yakimoff and Bob Davis

- Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Hall motioned to approve the March 1st 2017 minutes as amended (correct spelling – Kaminsky & Mary Murphy). Commissioner McGuiness seconded. Motion passed unanimously (6-0-0).
- 2. Correspondence and Announcements: Winter CACIWC Habitat newsletter and letter to Commissioner Kaminsky from Mary Murphy School
- 3. Budget: Website project has started. Discussed 2018 budget and possible future projects, invasive species management. Discussed possibility of controlled burns and Beacon Hill as a possible site but the scale of the project would be too large.

4. New Business:

- A. Proposed bridge replacement on route 146 in Guilford Scenic Road Committee: Commissioner Hall updated the Commission on the meeting that the Scenic Road Committee had with DOT. The proposed bridge to replace the existing one (rated in need of repair) would be 11ft high (raised 6ft from current height), 28ft wide and would be moved towards the railroad bridge a bit, having an impact on existing vegetation. The thought is that the larger opening will allow for increase flow and restore Lost Lake. They are setting up another meeting to meet with both DOT and DEEP at the same time to discuss whether other smaller scale alternatives may be feasible.
- B. Stated that the railroad may be looking to expand to four tracks. Chair Hannon mentioned an article about being on the lookout for crude oil being transported by rail.
- 5. Old Business: none
- 6. Continuing Business:
 - A. Permits for coastal projects: nothing
 - B. Proposed developments and other building projects: Atlantic Wharf has applied for a demolition permit
 - C. Invasive plant control: nothing
 - D. Jarvis Creek Project: nothing

7. Reports:

- A. Select Committee for Open Space Acquisition: nothing
- B. Library books donations: nothing
- C. Spill reports:
 - i. 3/8 East Industrial Rd gasoline leak of 15 gallons, sand used
 - ii. 3/31 131 Commercial Parkway petroleum leak, oil sheen from property to road
- D. Contaminated sites: nothing
- E. Coastal Resiliency Plan: Comm. Katz mentioned that CT Magazine had an article about coastal resilience in coastal towns
- F. Website: Chairman Hannon stated the bill has been paid so work can start

8. Other:

- A. Branford Festival June 17th
 - i. Bees: Comm. Saulys mason bee houses, Comm. FitzGerald craft pipe cleaner bees for kids, also need handouts
 - ii. Bat house display, Chairman Hannon will check with Jenny Dixon to see if she can get any information on the Stony Creek Bats
- B. Rid Litter Day April 15th

Comm. McGuinness Dan McGowan's request that the commission fund trash bags and gloves for rid litter day as they have done in the past.

Comm. Hall motioned to authorized up to \$100 for supplies reimbursement for rid litter day. Comm. McGuinness seconded. Motion passed unanimously (6-0-0).

9. Adjournment: Comm. FitzGerald motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:29, Commissioner McGuinness seconded. Motion passed unanimously (6-0-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Board Clerk, Jaymie Frederick