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ENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, February 9, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Enfield Conservation Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante in the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, Enfield, Connecticut on Tuesday, February 9, 2016 @ 7:15 PM.

ROLL CALL

Secretary Kathy Vose took the roll.

Present were Commissioner McGuire, Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Cote, Commissioner Vose, Commissioner Kneiss, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall.

Also present: Karen Timpone – Recording secretary and Ginny Higley – Staff liaison for this meeting from the planning office.

Absent – Commissioner Dynia and Commissioner Szewczak.

PUBLIC INPUT – No public input.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Minutes of November 10, 2015 – Motion made by Commissioner Vose to approve minutes, seconded by Commissioner Cote – No discussion. Approval of minutes 5/0/1, Commissioner Kneiss abstained. Minutes of December 8, 2015 – Motion made by Commissioner Kneiss to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Vose – No discussion – Approval of minutes 6/0/0. No minutes for January 2016 as the meeting was cancelled due to weather.

Open Space Inventory and Referrals:

The town was left in somebody's will a parcel on Oliver Road, just east of 91, the 50 foot strip going into the property and the rest of the property was left to the family. A family member is going to purchase the strip so the property will not be landlocked. Chair LaPlante requested that any monies they get for the land go into the Open Space Fund which was passed onto Town Council in the meeting.

There are some parcels on Susan Circle and Kimberly Drive that are on the delinquent tax list. Neither one is a buildable lot. Chair LaPlante told Town Council that would provide access down into some open space that is behind the parcels. She believes that before the owner passed he wanted it turned over to the Town. Chair LaPlante will make another list from the delinquent tax list of properties they believe should be open space which was never transferred. Commissioner Kneiss made a motion to e-mail Roger O'Brien regarding the open space list and the delinquent tax list, seconded by Commissioner Vose, no further discussion – passed unanimously.

New applications – IWWA and planning and zoning Commissions:

Chair LaPlante asked Ginny Higley if there was anything coming up for IWWA and PAZ. She said IWWA has nothing. Robie Staples is doing a variance for an addition and another parking lot to the left most side of the property on Anngina Drive. It is for Precision Camera who is coming back. Ginny suggested that someone from ECC take a look.

Aquifer Protection:

There was an Aquifer Protection Meeting – Chair LaPlante e-mailed Roger regarding the difference between a 5 year permit and a 10 year registration. Ginny explained they are interchangeable. Permit is a first time. The question is: Does it automatically renew for 10 years or it is possible to be for 5 years again? Chair LaPlante will continue to look into this for clarification.

Archaeological Protection:

a) Shaker Property – Fire Training Facility Update – No update. No minutes or agendas are posted.

6. Special Projects & Targeted Items

A) POCD Implementation Plan

1. Participate in Silvio Conte Refuge planning process – No update
2. Work w/CT DEEP to move Springborn Dam – No update.
3. Educate residents about riparian buffers – No update.
4. Revise open space donation standards – No update.
5. Blueway Trail Development - No update.
6. Identify key scenic overlooks – Commissioner McGuire suggested having a contest at one of the town wide celebrations for kids to choose their favorite scenic place in Enfield.. (Possibly Fourth of July, Jack-O-Lantern, Family Day, etc.)
7. Promote public access along the Connecticut River – No update.
8. Acquire land/easements along Freshwater Brook for trail development – No update.
9. Implement Mancuso Park Master Plan – No update.

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall stated that the trees on Palomba Drive in front of the car dealerships were all cut back to stumps. Ginny told the ECC to e-mail Roger. They are supposed to comply or replace.

Correspondence All Commissioners:

Citizens Satisfaction Survey – Done by voting districts. Overall totals were combined. Chair LaPlante reported on some that would pertain to ECC. Under Park and Recreation the number and variety of recreational programs – VS, S, N, D, VD - 82 to 83% who were either VS, S, or N. Overall quality of recreational programs, a little more were satisfied, neutral to higher. Town Parks 80%, maintenance of Town parks 81%. Number of walking and biking trails, drops down below 60%. Athletic fields 90%, quality of athletic fields 85%. Number of playgrounds 80%, quality of playgrounds 80%. Availability of information about town parks and recreational programs drops just below 80%, quality of special events and festivals 92% and Lamanga Center, N, S or VS. ECC has an opportunity as town people are looking for more biking and walking trails. A question in the survey asked which three of the park and rec items listed do you think should receive the most emphasis from Town leaders over the next two years. 44% of the people surveyed said more emphasis on walking and biking trails (highest number in the category listed above.)

There was a meeting for the Scantic River Park with the State Park people. Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall and Commissioner Dynia, Mike Emmons from SRWA attended. They claim they are fully

staffed but that was before cuts were announced across the board. DEEP is working on legislation for capacity at the park and have it so the Commissioner of the Park can make the call. We might be facing same issues as last year down by the Park. The problem is the parking at the Barn, not the 10 parking spaces at the entrance of the Park. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall said she suggested to them maybe more signs down there. Chair LaPlante said that the DEEP will possibly be using a pilot program at the Scantic River Park for signs and possibly use them at more parks. Some of the soil is eroding from the trail and needs steps. The dam is having issues too. The enforcement person from the DEEP for this park is willing to work with the Enfield Police. The interim Town Manager, Lee Erdmann, was going to contact the Enfield Police and see what the plan is as far as parking goes and posting it.

Clean up Chronicle from the Source to Sea Clean-up, Connecticut River Water Shed.

Water Shed Council Flyer - Migratory fish in your back yard. River Herring runs of the Connecticut River, Tuesday, February 23rd @ 7 PM at the Haddam Old Town Hall and also Thursday February 25th, 7 PM at Goodwin College, East Hartford. Steve Gephard will do a presentation. They are trying to open up a Citizen Scientist program for this. There will be meeting at DeKoven House in Middletown on Wednesday March 23rd @ 7 PM. The lower Connecticut River Steward, Alicea Charamut, is running that.

Northern Connecticut Land Trust Annual Report 2014 – 2015.

Energy and Environmental Protection –Freshwater Brook Flood Management Certification Manufacturing Technology Center at Asnuntuck Community College. This is for a permit for an extension on the building. Does not have to go through the Town as it is a state facility.

Liaison Report – Economic Development Commission – Commissioner Szewczak was absent.

Liaison Report - Scantic River Watershed Association – Commissioner Dynia was absent. Commissioner Cote reported that they had the Superbowl Hike and about 50 people attended, it was a beautiful day. East Windsor had a New Years Day Hike and 180 people attended. The Scantic River is open all through East Windsor to South Windsor and South Windsor just got a piece of property on the River which will allow them to start opening it up to the Connecticut River. The Scantic River Watershed is looking to do a membership drive.

Executive Session:

No Executive Session.

Next meeting is Tuesday March 8, 2016 -

Motion was made by Commissioner Kneiss to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Cote – No discussion – Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathleen Vose, Secretary

