

Town of Wethersfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of the January 13, 2016 Meeting
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Chairman *pro-tem* Rick Doran called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM in the Town Hall Conference Room, which was attended by Commissioners Dick Londergran, Ralph Moyer, Linda Nielson, and Rebecca Zaliznock. Also in attendance was Councilman Tony Martino; Kathy Bagley, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department; and Town Manager Jeff Bridges.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for May 13, 2015 were approved unanimously under a Motion by R. Moyer, Seconded by J. Londergran.

II. JEFF BRIDGES REPORT

- a. The Town Council is considering merging the Conservation Commission with the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission. The Missions of both Commissions will not change and the agricultural element can be incorporated into a redrafted Town ordinance. Currently, the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission has 7 of 9 volunteer slots filled, and the Conservation Commission has 5 of 9 volunteer positions filled. Three Conservation Commission members have not received formal re-appointments following the expirations of their 2014 and 2015 terms, which Mr. Bridges said he would update.
- b. Mr. Bridges presented information related to the proposed Reservoir Estates Subdivision and the extension of Outback Lane southward to the proposed subdivision. Outback Lane is proposed to run through the subdivision, but will not connect to the south section of Old Reservoir Road. Mr. Bridges reported that this the easement in the extreme northwest corner of the Wilkus Farm parcel was purchased separately by the Town; and does not impact the conditions of the Conservation Easement of the Wilkus Farm property.

III. TONY MARTINO REPORT

Mr. Martino newly serves as the Town Council Liaison for the Conservation Commission, and reported that the Town Council is currently working on upcoming budgets and Committee assignments. Mr. Martino mentioned that a referendum for funding Open Space acquisition will not be added to the upcoming ballot due to more current funding demands on the taxpayers. Should the Town be interested in purchasing an available parcel of land, a referendum can be prepared for a special ballot.

IV. KATHY BAGLEY REPORT

Ms. Bagley reported that the Engineering Department is working on the the GIS system entries for the Open Space Inventory; and will prepare a draft document for the Conservation Commissioners to review before the information is added to the Town's web site.

V. OLD BUSINESS

R. Moyer asked Mr. Bridges if there are any vacant parcel in tax arrears that might be considered for purchase by the Town; and requested a list of the parcels be provided to the Conservation Commission to review. Mr. Bridges said he would provide the list to Ms. Bagley.

Chairman *pro-tem* Doran ended the meeting at 8:08 PM under a motion by R. Londergran, Seconded by L. Neilson.

Respectfully submitted by

Rebecca M. Zaliznock, Secretary