

Town of Wethersfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of the June 11, 2008 Meeting

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Chairman Christoph Geiss called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM in the Town Hall Conference Room, which was attended by Commissioners Ingrid Boelhouwer, William Knapp, Ralph Moyer, Robert Pulford, Jim Schumaker, Royce Vehslage, and Rebecca Zaliznock. Others in attendance included Kathy Bagley of the Parks and Recreation Department, Christopher Shepard, Director of the Nature Center, and Matthew Forrest of the Town Council; and Ms. Chelsea Cyr a Senior at Wethersfield High School who observed the meeting for a Wethersfield Studies course assignment.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The April 9, 2008 Minutes were reviewed and on a Motion by R. Moyer, Seconded by R. Pulford, approved unanimously. Abstaining from the vote was R. Vehslage who was not present at the April meeting.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

The Land Use Academy April 10, 2008 announced their training program for land use commissioners to be held on May 17, September 27, and November 15, 2008 for certification when attending the 3 course training program.

III. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner Schumaker reported that a few people attended the Connecticut Trail Days walk on June 7th, which began at the Putman Business Park through the Meadows for a 5 mile walk. C. Shepard also reported attendance at the Nature Center Trail Days walk along the Goff Brook watershed area.
- Kathy Bagley reported that the Public Works Department is completing the signage along the Heritage Way Trail, and the completion of the path that connects Mill Woods Park with Griswoldville and the Reservoir. The Parks and Recreation Department is preparing the submittal to the DEP for reimbursement under the approved Grant. The status of the trail system connection to the Town of Newington trail system is unknown.
- On May 5, 2008, the Town Council awarded the Beaver Brook linear park feasibility study to Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) for a cost of \$15,000.00. Town Manager B. Therrien asked the Conservation Commission to provide information to VHB for the project. The Commission discussed the objectives for the trail including considerations as a natural preserve; the development of a greenbelt; the clean up of the Spring Street Pond and other areas (beautification); the improvement of the flow of Beaver Brook; and regulatory enforcement for dumping along the brook. The project goals will be summarized by Chairman Geiss for submittal to the Town Manager.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Moyer (seconded by I. Boelhouwer) to thank Commissioner Vehslage for his service to the Conservation Commission during his tenure, which expires June 30, 2008.

Commissioner Geiss adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM under a Motion by W. Knapp and seconded by R. Pulford.

Respectfully submitted by
Rebecca M. Zaliznock