



**TOWN OF WESTBROOK
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Mulvey Municipal Center
866 Boston Post Rd.
Westbrook, CT 06498
Tel. 399-3046 – FAX 399-2084

**Westbrook Conservation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 21, 2020 7:00 p.m.
Mulvey Municipal Center - South Meeting Room
(Unapproved)**

Members Present

Marty Marx, Chairman; Sheridan Bauman, Chris Bazinet, Randy Bell, Molly Bernstein and Mike Oryl

Members Absent

John Rie and Morgan Allen, non-voting member

Staff Present

Heidi Wallace, Inland Wetlands Agent
Kathleen King, Recording Clerk

Call to Order

M. Marx called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes- December 17, 2019

MOTION: to approve the Conservation Commission's Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2019 as presented. **MADE:** by M. Oryl; **SECONDED:** by R. Bell; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** S. Bauman, C. Bazinet, M. Oryl, R. Bell, and M. Bernstein; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Bills:

MOTION: to approve the December time sheet from Recording Clerk Kathy King for \$108.28. **MADE:** by M. Oryl; **SECONDED:** by R. Bell; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** S. Bauman, C. Bazinet, M. Oryl, R. Bell, M. Bernstein; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Correspondence:

The following correspondence was received: 11/26/2019 Zoning Commission Corrected Meeting Minutes, 12/17/2019 Zoning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes, 10/1/2019 IWWC Corrected Meeting Minutes, 12/3/2019 IWWC Regular Meeting Minutes, 12/3/2019 IWWC Corrected Meeting Minutes, 1/7/2020 IWWC Regular Meeting Minutes, October 2019 Inland Wetland Agent's Report and December 2019 Inland Wetland Agent's Report.

Chairman’s Report:

Conservation Commission budget and Toby Hill VIII

The budget was accepted by the BOS, and they are waiting for some revenue numbers before they approve it.

A grant was received for Toby Hill VIII. H. Wallace wrote a narrative about how the purchase of Toby Hill VIII is consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

There is a Westbrook Land Conservation Trust meeting on 2/2/2020 at 1:00 p.m. on 131 Pritchett Drive. M. Marx will make a presentation about Toby Hill VIII.

Open Space Projects:

Kirtland Landing – John: update and status

J. Rie was not able to attend tonight’s meeting. This will be tabled until he’s present.

Heritage/Open Space Brochure- Molly: update and next steps

M. Bernstein reported that she read through the excerpts of the brochure a few times, and she made some edits, updating and revising it. She obtained the design files from Darlene Briggs. The brochure will be uploaded to the town web site when it’s ready. M. Bernstein hopes to have the updates completed by the 2/25/20 CC meeting for CC review.

Toby Hill Phase VIII – discuss grant, update from Board of Selectmen meeting and ideas for public support

H. Wallace reported that the state grant was received for the purchase of the Toby Hill VIII property in the amount of \$315,000.00. The cost of the property is \$650,000.00. She’s reaching out to other organizations to find funds to pay the difference of \$335,000.00 such as the Westbrook Foundation. There are opportunities for “bridge” funds as well which can get repaid at a later date such as from the Trust for Public Land (TPL). There is \$140,000.00 in the CC’s Open Space Fund. There were 2 appraisals done on the property, and \$650,000.00 was the figure chosen in between the 2 appraisals.

M. Marx talked about the Conservation Commission’s building up of the greenways by purchasing open space over the past decade. The purchase of this property is in keeping with the greenways theme and the POCD.

<p><u>MOTION:</u> to support using the \$140,000.00 in the Conservation Commission’s Open Space Fund towards the purchase of the 146 acres of Toby Hill Estates Phase VIII which totals \$650,000.00. <u>MADE:</u> by R. Bell; <u>SECONDED:</u> by M. Oryl; <u>VOTED IN FAVOR:</u> S. Bauman, C. Bazinet, M. Oryl, R. Bell, M. Bernstein; <u>OPPOSED:</u> None; <u>ABSTAINED:</u> None; <u>APPROVED:</u> 5-0-0.</p>
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M. Marx would like to go to the Town for funding. This would require a Town Meeting. M. Marx is putting together a presentation for that.

Commission members thanked H. Wallace for writing the grant and congratulated her for receiving it.

Trail Maintenance at Open Space Properties – off season

M. Bernstein said there are 2 large dead trees that have fallen in the trail in the Chapman Mill Pond hiking area.

Open Space Signage-

R. Bell will be delivering the signs to the Town.

Tom ODell Memorial Open Space Signage: Chris – update and status

C. Bazinet distributed materials showing mock ups of the 2 signs: one is the road sign and the other is the trail head sign. C. Bazinet took pictures of other road signs in the area to see what their dimensions are, so the signs have consistency. He also gave price estimates for the size and materials. The PVC sign board is the most inexpensive. They also discussed sign post materials.

Commissioners thanked C. Bazinet for all of his time and effort on this project. He will contact the sign company for final sign mock ups and price estimates with the PVC materials and posts.

New Business:

As needed

Old Business:

As needed

Reports: Planning, Zoning, Inland Wetlands, Town Center, Preserve Ad Hoc Committee, and Harbor Management Commission

<p><u>MOTION:</u> to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. in the South Meeting Room of the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post. <u>MADE:</u> by R. Bell; <u>SECONDED:</u> by M. Bernstein; <u>VOTED IN FAVOR:</u> S. Bauman, C. Bazinet, M. Oryl, R. Bell, M. Bernstein; <u>OPPOSED:</u> None; <u>ABSTAINED:</u> None; <u>APPROVED:</u> 5-0-0.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen King, Recording Clerk