



**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, September 17, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Mulvey Municipal Center - South Meeting Room
(Unapproved)**

Members Present

Marty Marx, Chairman; Sheridan Bauman, Randy Bell, Molly Bernstein (arrived at 7:03 p.m.), Mike Oryl and John Rie

Members Absent

Chris Bazinet and Morgan Allen, non-voting member

Staff Present

Kathy King, Recording Clerk

Call to Order

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

Minutes- August 20, 2019

MOTION: to approve the Conservation Commission's Meeting Minutes of August 20, 2019 as presented. **MADE:** by R. Bell; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** M. Oryl, S. Bauman, R. Bell, and J. Rie; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

Bills:

MOTION: to approve the August time sheet from Recording Clerk Kathy King for \$137.97. **MADE:** by M. Oryl; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** M. Oryl, S. Bauman, R. Bell, and J. Rie; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

Correspondence:

The following correspondence was received: 8/27/19 Zoning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes, 9/3/2019 Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission Regular Meeting Minutes, August 2019 Inland Wetland Agent's Report, a thank you letter dated 9/11/2019 from the CT Land Conservation Council thanking the CC for their donation, email from Carol ODell letting M. Marx know that she's been cleaning out Tom ODell's files and she'll be boxing things for the Conservation Commission, and a letter dated 9/11/2019 from Noel Bishop regarding the re-appointment of Chris Bazinet to the Conservation Commission.

Chairman's Report:

M. Marx followed up with the Tree Protective Association regarding the free tree they're offering to plant in Westbrook for Arbor Day. They will be putting their own plaque on it. They contacted the Westbrook Garden Club, and they are looking for a site to plant the tree, perhaps on the grounds of Town Hall.

Harry Ruppnick asked the Conservation Commission to review the Natural Heritage Site Map that he's going to update and reprint. This was an Eagle Scout project. There are some corrections that need to be made.

<p><u>MOTION:</u> to add the Natural Heritage Site Map under New Business. <u>MADE:</u> by M. Oryl; <u>SECONDED:</u> by M. Bernstein; <u>VOTED IN FAVOR:</u> M. Oryl, S. Bauman, R. Bell, M. Bernstein and J. Rie; <u>OPPOSED:</u> None; <u>ABSTAINED:</u> None; <u>APPROVED:</u> 5-0-0.</p>

First Selectman Noel Bishop received the letter from M. Marx about renaming Salt Island Overlook in honor of Tom ODell. He likes the idea and will bring it up at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Open Space Projects:

Kirtland Landing – John: update and status

J. Rie said they are waiting to hear from the CT DEEP for the Certificate of Permission (COP). It will take much longer to get a permit without the COP. There will be a Town Meeting on 10/3/2019 about this.

Toby Hill Phase VIII – Heidi: update and status

H. Wallace replenished the trail maps. The Board of Selectmen voted to extend the contract of sale for Toby Hill Phase VIII until 1/15/2020. They will be waiting to hear if they will receive matching funding.

Trail Maintenance at Open Space Properties – off season

M. Marx said the interns have gone back to school. There isn't a lot to be done at this point. The interns did a great job over the summer, and they got a lot done. He suggested if CC members are walking the trails, and they happen to notice something amiss, they can take care of it themselves or report it to the CC. M. Bernstein offered to replenish maps when needed.

Open Space Signage-

R. Bell said he went to the sign shop. He was able to cancel the sign job before it proceeded, and he was able to get the check back. He purchased wood and will purchase hardware to hang the signs with. He will contact Director of Public Works John Riggio about planting the wood for the signs to be sure they are the right distance from the road, etc. One sign will go on Breakneck Hill and the other will go in the northern parking lot of Horse Hill Woods on Route 145 so it's visible for people driving by.

Renaming Salt Island Overlook – update

This is in process. It is going to be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen.

Memorial for Bob Peterson

A tree has to be purchased in memory of Bob Peterson, and it needs to be planted where it can be watered. M. Marx suggested that instead of a tree, a bench be placed on the top of the hill with a plaque that says "In Memory of Bob Peterson." There is money in the Conservation Commission budget to pay for the bench. M. Marx talked with Deb Rie to ask her about benches. She said the Westbrook Garden Club has applied for a grant for benches, so it may be possible that they could purchase a bench, and the Conservation Commission could put a plaque on that bench for Bob Peterson.

New Business:

Natural Heritage Site Map-

The map is being redone as an Eagle Scout project. It has been printed once, but it needs to have some corrections and then be reprinted.

M. Marx will ask Heidi Wallace who she would recommend to review the Natural Heritage Site Map.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business.

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

J. Rie said that on 10/22/2019 at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Zoning Commission Public Hearing for the Wetmore Marine application. He encouraged Conservation Commission members to attend.

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting at 7:45p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the South Meeting Room of the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post. **MADE:** by J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by R. Bell; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** M. Oryl, S. Bauman, J. Rie, R. Bell, M. Bernstein; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen King
Recording Clerk