



**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, March 19, 2013 7:00 p.m.
Mulvey Municipal Center - South Meeting Room
(Unapproved)**

Call to Order

Chairman Tom ODell called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present

Tom ODell, Don Harger, Bob Peterson, Mike Oryl, Randy Bell, Marty Marx, John Rie

Minutes- February 19, 2013

MOTION: to approve the minutes of February 19, 2013 as presented. ;**MADE:** by D. Harger; **SECONDED:** by R. Bell;**VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, D. Harger, R. Bell, M. Oryl, J. Rie, M. Marx; **OPPOSED:** none; **ABSTAINED:** none; **APPROVED:** 6-0-0.

Bills

MOTION: to approve the time sheet submitted by Kathleen Noyes, Conservation Commission Recording Clerk, for \$143.50.; **MADE:** by R. Bell; **SECONDED:** by M. Oryl; **APPROVED:** 6-0-0.

MOTION: to approve the invoice submitted by Tom ODell, for \$38.35.; **MADE: by** M. Oryl;; **SECONDED:** by D. Harger **APPROVED:**

Correspondence

The following correspondence was received :

The Habitat

Aquarion - Environmental Champion Awards –request nominations

Zoning Minutes Feb 26, 2013

E-mail - Jill Branard Westbrook Event Article due April 6th

Chairman's Report

The Chairman's Report will be discussed under the agenda items below.

MOTION: to add to the agenda “Zoning referral for emergency services” under new business, and “Town participation in NOAA Grant” as the last item under “Open Space Program”; **MADE:** by B.Peterson; **SECONDED:** by D. Harger; **APPROVED: 6-0-0.**

Open Space Program

Chapman Mill Pond Open Space

>> **Proposed State purchase of land with dam; pending purchase; dam maintenance**

Progress is slow but positive: purchase agreement being reviewed by Atty. General

>>**Trail work needed** - number of large trees need to be removed

>>**Parking Area** - Woodard and Curran developing plan for parking area to submit for a grant (Recreational Trails Program Application). Some work done and initial plan is available for review. Need to vote if we will allow horses on Chapman Mill Pond trails. Current layout does not provide ample space for a horse trailers; Would need to double the size for horse access. If we allow horses we will need to protect the vernal pools. There will be erosion with horses at start of existing path so new path is needed. Maybe have 2 trails, one for horses and one for pedestrians. Or should we not consider horses at all. Seems very expensive.

Motion by D. Harger, second by B. Peterson To allow equestrian and pedestrian usage on Chapman Mill Pond Trails. **Approved 6 -0-0**

Motion by J. Rie, second by D. Harger To support the draft plan by Woodard and Curran for a parking area for access to Chapman Mill Pond trails. **Approved 6-0-0**

Suggestions

Remove gate - too expensive, not needed

Sign on road perpendicular to the road to allow cars to see the sign

Trails for horses would require more maintenance (trim higher)

Is it a safety issue to have trailers entering and leaving the entrance of the parking area on to Route 145?

Salt Island

>>**Barrier Island Meeting** - Discuss Program Meeting on Thursday March 21 @6:00 PM

>>**Educational Signs: Audubon grant update** - Mock up will be on display at the meeting

Salt Island Overlook

>>**Restoring Coastal Forest:** Rick Potvin still does not know his budget at this time

>>**Invasive Plant Workshop:** Rick Potvin still planning on having workshop but needs to schedule with Oxford Academy

Old Business

- >>Budget 2013-14: Approved with minimal discussion
- >>CRCA legislation: Board of Selectmen approved. State legislature Environment Committee will not vote to send to other committees.
- >>Open Space legislation: CIA has state wide support to keep intact. So far still active.
- >>Town web site: Commission would like the ability to update the website.

New Business

- >>Adopt A Park: CT Parks & Forest are asking towns to Write a letter to legislators requesting they Adopt a Park support the Motion by R. Bell, seconded M. Oryl to have Conservation Commission write a letter to state legislators to support the Adopt A Park **Approved 6-0-0**

- >>Town participation in NOAA–

Motion by R. Bell, second M. Marx, to have Conservation Commission write letter to Board of Selectmen requesting they support town participation in NOAA Sea Grant Community Climate Adaption proposal. **Approved 6-0-0**

- >>Zoning referral for emergency services - ZC2013-02 - No comment.

Motion by M. Oryl, second R. Bell, to support zoning change change.
Approved 6-0-0

Reports

Planning Commission
Zoning Commission
Inland Wetlands Commission
Harbor Commission
Town Center Committee
Adopt –A- Spot

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. in the South Meeting Room of the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post Road.; **MADE:** by J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by M. Oryl; **APPROVED:** 6-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom ODell
Acting Clerk

CC: Planning Commission
Zoning Commission
Inland Wetlands &