



# TOWN OF WESTBROOK

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

866 BOSTON POST ROAD  
WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT 06498  
(860) 399-3046 • Fax (860) 399-2084

### Westbrook Conservation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 19, 2016 7:00 p.m. Mulvey Municipal Center - South Meeting Room (Unapproved)

#### **Members Present**

Tom ODell, John Rie, Mike Oryl, Bob Peterson, Marty Marx

#### **Unexcused Absences**

Don Harger  
Randy Bell

#### **Call to Order**

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

#### **Minutes- March 15, 2016**

**MOTION:** to approve the Conservation Commission's Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2016 as presented. **MADE:** by J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by M. Marx; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, M. Oryl, J. Rie, M. Marx, T. ODell; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

**MOTION:** to approve time sheets from Recording Clerk Kathleen King in the amount of \$280.60. **MADE:** by M. Oryl; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, M. Oryl, J. Rie, M. Marx, T. ODell; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

#### **Correspondence**

The following were received: 4/5/16 Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission Minutes, 3/22/16 Zoning Commission Minutes and Inland Wetland Agent's Report for March 2016. Also received was an invitation from Audubon for Audubon Sharon on 5/29/2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for "Raptors and Riesling" and a letter dated 4/8/2016 from the Aquarion Water Company informing the Commission about nominations for the Aquarion Environmental Champion Awards. The deadline for nominations is 5/4/2016.

#### **Chairman's Report**

T. ODell is writing 2 articles for Westbrook Events. One will be on CT Trails Day which is June 4<sup>th</sup>, and one will be on Terri Potvin's Vernal Pool program.

**MOTION:** to add Toby Hill Forest under Open Space Program. **MADE:** by J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by M. Oryl; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, M. Oryl, J. Rie, M. Marx, T. ODell; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

## Open Space Program

### **Preservation/Acquisition**

- **Sciongay:** No action taken.

**MOTION:** to enter into Executive Session. **MADE:** by M. Marx; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, M. Oryl, J. Rie, M. Marx, T. ODell; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

**MOTION:** to exit Executive Session. **MADE:** by M. Marx; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, M. Oryl, J. Rie, M. Marx, T. ODell; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

- **Lane:** 10 acres bordering Toby Hill Woods; T. ODell had nothing new to report.
- **Toby Hill Forest;** T. ODell distributed a letter dated 4/14/2016 marked Urgent Request that he wrote to Representative Devin R. Carney, Representative Jesse MacLachlan and Senator Art Linares. The letter concerned the funding for the \$390,000.00 grant award from CT DEEP's Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition program (OSWA) not being "swept" from the Community Investment Act (CIA) fund balance into the State's General Fund. He detailed information about the process in applying for the grant in 2015, and his request to ensure funds are available.

### **Management**

- **Chapman Mill Pond:**  
>>**Parking area construction:** Shrubbery for front has been ordered.
- **Parking Area Recommendations for Toby Hill Woods on Halls Road; Horse Hill Woods on Breakneck Hill.** No activity
- **Salt Island: History-Cultural Documentation for visitor and community outreach:**  
T. ODell met with David Murray, graduate of Fairfield University who plans to continue his education post graduate in history. D. Murray is interested in working with the Conservation Commission as both a summer intern and in researching the history of Salt Island. T. ODell said there is funding under the Open Space line item in the Conservation Commission budget. He reviewed the Salt Island Cultural/Historic Documentation Westbrook Conservation Commission Draft Contract for researching and documenting the history and cultural importance of Salt Island. The time frame for this work would be May to mid-June.

**MOTION:** to devote up to \$500.00 to the Salt Island Cultural/Historic Documentation study. **MADE:** J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by M. Marx; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** B. Peterson, M. Oryl, M. Marx, J. Rie, T. ODell; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

- **Trail Management:** David Murray is interested in interning beginning July 1st. Marty Marx plans to intern this summer as well.

**Friends of Westbrook Barrier Islands: Osprey Program, April 23, 2016:** J. Rie said he hopes to have good attendance at the Osprey in CT Program at the Episcopal Church, South Main Street, Westbrook, Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Rick Potvin will be speaking about shore birds as well.

## Old Business

- **Kirtland Landing Grant:** T. ODell and Rick Potvin investigating status of approved grant funds
- **Mulvey boat launch and dock:** T. ODell said funds for dock have been requested from Town' Capital Budget
- **Update National Trails Day: June 4**  
This was discussed under the Chairman's Report.

## Reports

Planning, Zoning, Inland Wetlands, Harbor Commission, Town Center, Adopt-A-Spot, The Preserve

The Preserve is not yet open on the Westbrook side, but it recently opened on the Old Saybrook side. There are Interim Trail Maps available for the Old Saybrook trails. However, at this time, there is no established parking lot for The Preserve in Old Saybrook.

<p><b>MOTION:</b> to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the South Meeting Room of the Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post Road. <b>MADE:</b> J. Rie; <b>SECONDED:</b> by M. Marx; <b>VOTED IN FAVOR:</b> M. Oryl, J. Rie, T. ODell, B. Peterson, M. Marx; <b>OPPOSED:</b> None; <b>ABSTAINED:</b> None.; <b>APPROVED:</b> 5-0-0.</p>
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Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk

cc: Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission