



**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 19, 2021 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada) Virtual Meeting**

**Members Present**

Marty Marx, Chairman; Sheridan Bauman, Randy Bell, Molly Bernstein

**Members Absent**

Chris Bazinet and John Rie

**Staff Present**

Heidi Wallace, Inland Wetlands Agent  
Kathleen King, Recording Clerk

**Call to Order**

M. Marx called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Minutes- December 15, 2020**

**MOTION:** to approve the December 15, 2020 Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted. **MADE:** by R. Bell; **SECONDED:** by M. Bernstein; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** S. Bauman, R. Bell, M. Bernstein and M. Marx; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

**Bills:**

**MOTION:** to approve the November time sheet from Recording Clerk Kathy King for \$139.15. **MADE:** by R. Bell; **SECONDED:** by S. Bauman; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** S. Bauman, R. Bell, M. Bernstein and M. Marx; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

**Correspondence:**

The following correspondence was received: 11/4/2020 Inland Wetlands Commission Corrected Special Meeting Minutes, 11/4/2020 Inland Wetlands Commission Special Meeting Minutes, 12/15/20 Zoning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes, December 2020 Inland Wetlands Agent's Report, October/November 2020 Inland Wetlands Agent's Report, 1/7/2021 Inland Wetlands Commission Site Walk Meeting Minutes and 1/5/2021 Inland Wetlands Regular Meeting Minutes.

## **Chairman's Report:**

M. Oryl resigned as a Conservation Commission member. M. Marx would like to fill that vacancy.

M. Bernstein said she has a friend who might be interested in serving, and she will talk with him.

H. Wallace said there is a property on Horse Hill Road, and the owner is applying for a free split. There are a lot of inland wetlands on the property. The lots have been approved by the Army Corps of Engineers. The application for the house is likely to be on the February Inland Wetlands agenda. There is a proposed conservation area. H. Wallace will do some research, and she will give the information about the conservation area to the Conservation Commission.

## **Open Space Projects:**

- **Open Space Management Plan for spring/summer 2021**

M. Marx said the interns, Sam and Gus, are most likely going to be moving on to full time jobs. M. Marx has reached out to Jane Brawerman at the CT River Coastal Conservation District in Middletown. He told Jane he'd like to work with her on an Open Space Maintenance Plan, a Salt Island Management Plan and a plan for Toby Hill.

S. Bauman had said she'd try to get an intern from the high school, but M. Marx said he will not have the time to manage an intern. He said maybe someone can be hired part-time to manage an intern. Also, maybe someone could organize community volunteers to help.

M. Marx can talk to Sam and Gus, last summer's interns, about being available as consults to help train the next interns.

M. Bernstein said Mary Butler and her husband have been managing and clearing the trails in the Town Forest. M. Bernstein will get their contact information to M. Marx.

- **Horse Hill Gorge**

Bill Neale contacted M. Marx. He's very eager to help with Horse Hill Gorge. M. Marx asked R. Bell to contact B. Neale. They can walk the trail with the current homeowners and mark off the trail with some ribbon. They can scout out the location for the parking lot. M. Marx said there's money in the budget for the Department of Public Works to put in a parking area.

M. Marx would like to talk with Eric Knapp about property off of Kenrose Terrace that abuts Horse Hill Gorge. This area is designated open space, so no one can build on it, but it was not conveyed to the Town. M. Marx would like some more information about it. H. Wallace offered to research this to see where this left off and what the status is.

- **Heritage/Open Space Brochure**

M. Marx is going to contact Carol Hess from Finance about where to deposit the money from the sale/donations of the Heritage/Open Space Brochures. S. Bauman has set up a donation box with a display of the maps for sale at Julie's Cup of Joe coffee shop.

- **Toby Hill VIII Purchase**

The Community Foundation gave the Town a \$5,000.00 grant, and the Westbrook Land Conservation Trust gave another \$5,000.00 towards the Toby Hill VIII purchase. There needs to be a second appraisal done on the property. 21 acres is going to be sold to a private purchaser. The parcel was 146.74 acres to begin with.

- **Tom ODeil Memorial Open Space – memorial bench for Bob Peterson**

M. Marx called Chris McGovern who did the benches for the Westbrook Garden Club. He has a company called Master Works. M. Marx will get the bench started. He's going to look through the minutes to see how the wording for the plaque in memory of Bob Peterson should read.

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

<p><b>MOTION:</b> to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, February 16, 2021. <b>MADE:</b> by R. Bell; <b>SECONDED:</b> by M. Bernstein; <b>VOTED IN FAVOR:</b> S. Bauman, R. Bell, M. Bernstein and M. Marx; <b>OPPOSED:</b> None; <b>ABSTAINED:</b> None; <b>APPROVED:</b> 4-0-0.</p>
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Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk