



**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, April 20, 2021 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada) Virtual Meeting**

**Members Present**

Marty Marx, Chairman; Chris Bazinet, Randy Bell and John Rie

**Members Absent** Sheridan Bauman and Molly Bernstein

**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- March 16, 2021**

**MOTION:** to approve the March 16, 2021 Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted. **MADE:** by R. Bell; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** C. Bazinet, R. Bell and J. Rie. **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 3-0-0.

**Bills:**

**MOTION:** to approve the March time sheet from Recording Clerk Kathy King for \$125.24. **MADE:** by R. Bell; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** C. Bazinet, R. Bell and J. Rie; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 3-0-0.

**MOTION:** to pay \$2,750.00 to Master Works Design and Building Company, which includes a deposit of \$1,000.00, for the memorial bench for Bob Peterson. This amount also includes the bench installation. **MADE:** by C. Bazinet; **SECONDED:** by J. Rie; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** C. Bazinet, R. Bell and J. Rie; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 3-0-0.

**Correspondence:**

The following correspondence was received: Corrected Minutes of the Regular IWWC Meeting via Zoom January 5, 2021, Minutes of the Regular IWWC Meeting via Zoom February 2, 2021, Corrected Minutes of the Regular IWWC Meeting via Zoom February 2, 2021, Minutes of the Regular IWWC Meeting via Zoom March 2, 2021, February 2021 Inland Wetland Agent Report, March 2021 Inland Wetland Agent Report, Zoning

**Chairman's Report:**

**Open Space Projects:**

- **Lake Treatment**

There will be 2 Lake Laconia (Chapman Mill Pond) treatments: one in June and one in August.

- **Summer Interns**

M. Marx received four responses to his article advertising for summer interns in Westbrook Events Magazine. He said the candidates are all very qualified. The last interview is tomorrow. M. Marx said they will definitely have two interns this summer, and he is looking forward to working with them.

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

M. Marx said he's talked to all of the summer intern candidates about drafting an Open Space Management Plan. This would be part of their job which includes quite a bit of research. M. Marx talked about the process of offering the internships to two of the candidates and how the process would work in terms of hiring, training and management of the interns.

- **Horse Hill Gorge**

M. Marx would like to plan a Conservation Commission group hike so everyone can see the easement and open space at Horse Hill Gorge. The parcel is an odd shape. M. Marx said it might be a good idea to hire a professional surveyor to determine the property boundaries.

- **Heritage/Open Space Brochure**

S. Bauman was not in attendance at tonight's meeting, but she did report that 10 maps were sold at Julie's Cup of Joe to a landlord who purchased the maps for summer renters at his beach house.

- **Toby Hill VIII Purchase**

H. Wallace said they're moving forward with the State. A \$2,800.00 donation towards the purchase of Toby Hill VIII has been received. The State will adjust the price based on the reduced acreage.

- **Toby Hill Management Plan**

M. Marx had a meeting today with Kelly Starr from the CT River Coastal Conservation District. The original proposal for the Toby Hill Management Plan was written a few years ago. That Plan does not include Toby Hill VIII. K. Starr will start doing some preliminary work including mapping and research. She suggested the CC work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) program which is sponsored by the CT DEEP. They can help towns come up with a forest management plan.

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

There is no firm date yet for installation of the memorial bench for Bob Peterson at the Tom ODell Memorial Open Space. M. Marx hopes to have the bench installed this spring.

- **Salt Island Management Plan**

There is nothing new to report.

- **Open Space Management Fund – request for capital funding for the acquisition of open space**

At the last Conservation Commission meeting, Bill Neale made a presentation suggesting that the Conservation Commission consider Capital Funding for open space purchases. He recommended a \$2,000,000.00 fund. M. Marx said 15-18 years ago, they did have a large fund to draw from to purchase open space. This would be a proposal for the next fiscal year, 2022-2023. This money would be earmarked for open space parcels. This would make it easier to get grant matching from the State because the Town would know how much money they had in the Capital Fund. The Conservation Commission would still need to go before the Town to justify expenditures of Open Space. They feel there is support in Town for the protection and preservation of Open Space and the Aquifer.

M. Marx would like to have a vote on this at the June Conservation Commission meeting. Commission members would also like to confer with First Selectman Noel Bishop and Gary Gavigan from the Board of Finance.

**Old Business:** There was no Old Business to discuss.

**New Business:** There was no New Business to discuss.

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

<p><b><u>MOTION:</u></b> to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. <b><u>MADE:</u></b> by R. Bell; <b><u>SECONDED:</u></b> by J. Rie; <b><u>VOTED IN FAVOR:</u></b> C. Bazinet, R. Bell and J. Rie; <b><u>OPPOSED:</u></b> None; <b><u>ABSTAINED:</u></b> None; <b><u>APPROVED:</u></b> 3-0-0.</p>
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Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk