

# **2010 BCC Annual Report**

Thursday, February 03, 2011

February 3, 2011

Leona Mainville  
Town Clerk  
P.O. Box 356  
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Re: Brooklyn Conservation Commission 2010 Annual Report

Dear Leona,

The Brooklyn Conservation Commission proudly presents our annual report for the year 2010.

## **Activities\Projects\Grants**

The Commission hosted a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Earth Day Clean-up Event in April 2010. About 60 people including children participated in the event. Trash was picked up on several roads in Brooklyn as well as Riverside Park. Participants filled a dump truck to overflowing with trash. The commission distributed Earth Day stickers to everyone who participated.

The Commission redesigned the trail guide brochure. The brochure is available on the town's website, the town hall, the Parks & Recreation office and The Last Green Valley office in Danielson.

The Commission set up an informational table at the Memorial Day Parade. The commission created a poster board illustrating town parks and trails. Trail guides were available.

The Commission wrote letters to the Board of Selectman, Charter Communications Advisory Board, Charter Communication and the Department of Public Utility Control concerning Charter Communication's battery backup units which utilize continuous green or red LED indicator lights. The Department of Public Utility Control responded that they will monitor Charter Communication's progress on solving the excessively bright light issue.

Mark Goetz, GIS Director, NECCOG, presented the Conservation and

Preservation Mapping Pilot Project to the commission. Brooklyn is one of three towns selected for the pilot.

The Commission provided property markers to the Zoning Enforcement Officer to distribute to developers to mark boundaries. This is a requirement of the subdivision plan.

The Commission added several conservation links to the Town's website and continues to keep the website updated with conservation information.

Conservation Commission members continue to apply "No Dumping, Drains to River" stickers on storm drains in Town. Stickers were placed on storm drains on Greenway Drive and on the road leading to Riverside Park.

Officers were re-elected in April of 2010. Jeannine Noel was re-elected as Chair of the commission. Holly Drinkuth was re-elected as Treasurer, and Ailla Wasstrom-Welz was re-elected as Secretary.

Brooklyn Conservation Commission members attended the Windham County Conservation Consortium meetings. The Consortium was created to link the conservation commissions in Windham County in order to share information and experiences.

The Commission completed its portion of the Plan of Conservation and Development which includes goals that have been met, future goals, and statistics and descriptions of natural resources and open space in Brooklyn.

### **Development Reviews**

As a non-regulatory land use commission, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission conducts development site plan reviews and forwards recommendations to the other regulatory land use commissions, Inland Wetlands and Planning and Zoning. These recommendations are based on review of our natural resource inventory mapping and the potential for impacts from site plan proposals. For subdivisions of three or more parcels, Subdivision Regulations stipulate Open Space donations (quit claim or conservation easement) either to the Town of Brooklyn or other not-for-profit land preservation trust or a fee in-lieu of the property donation.

During the year of 2010, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission reviewed four site plans and made recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The commission recommended fee-in-lieu for one 4-lot subdivision plan since there was no public access to the proposed conservation easement.

## Training

During 2010, local conservation and land use educational training events were attended by Brooklyn Conservation Commission members. These are essential in developing the skills necessary to protecting open space and the environment for future Brooklyn residents. Below is a list of training events/ workshops, dates and attendance as members of the Brooklyn Conservation Commission.

Training/Workshop Name	Date	BCC Member Attended
FOIA Training	2/6/2010 11/2010	Jeannine Noel Diane Wimmer
Municipal Meetings	2/20/2010	Jeannine Noel
GIS Training	3/30-4/1/2010	Jeannine Noel
Easement Monitoring Workshop	5/21/2010	Holly Drinkuth (presenter)
Water Monitoring Program	7 - 9/2010	Bev Thornton
Wetlands – DEP Muddy Waters Award	10/2010	Bev Thornton
Green Valley Institute Weekend Retreat	9/17-9/19/2010	Bev Thornton Holly Drinkuth (presenter)
Ag Land Program	10/19/2010	Holly Drinkuth Diane Wimmer
CACIWC Environmental Conference	11/13/2010	Ailla Wasstrom-Welz Jeannine Noel
NECCOG/TLGV Conservation & Preservation Mapping Pilot Project	11/30/2010	Holly Drinkuth Jeannine Noel

Sincerely,

Jeannine Noel  
Brooklyn Conservation Commission Chair

cc: Melissa Bradley