

# Brooklyn Conservation Commission

P. O. Box 356

Brooklyn, CT 06234

January 29, 2014

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

Re: Brooklyn Conservation Commission 2013 Annual Report

Dear Leona,

The Brooklyn Conservation Commission proudly presents our annual report for the year 2013.

## **Activities\Projects\Grants**

Eric Dorsey, GIS Program Director, gave a presentation on NECCOG's GIS website ([www.gis.neccog.org](http://www.gis.neccog.org)). NECCOG's GIS services include the ability to perform build-out analysis for future planning and decision making. The department works closely with its members to facilitate the sharing of GIS data among government agencies and with the public to ensure the information is accurate, up-to-date and readily available.

The Commission created a trail maintenance schedule and presented it to the First Selectman. The Commission continues to work on the trails in Brooklyn in conjunction with other town agencies.

The Commission marked the nature trail at Riverside Park and the trail was installed. The Commission held a Planting Party at Riverside Park in May. Shrubs and perennials were planted. The Commission purchased a meadow mix which will be planted in 2014. The Commission is working with Parks and Recreation to create signs for the park.

At Family Fun Day, the Commission helped about 150 children plant pumpkin

seeds.

The Commission participated in the Spooky Nights Event in October. A painting/carving party was held at the fairgrounds prior to the event. Michael Oatley built a pumpkin tower using recycled jugs and real pumpkins. Commission members volunteered at the weekend event.

Jeannine Noel and Diane Wimmer continue as Co-Chairs. Holly Drinkuth and Ailla Wasstrom-Welz left the Commission. Dana Heilemann was re-appointed as a regular member. Harry Adams was appointed as a regular member. The treasurer and secretary duties are shared among the members.

The Commission held several meetings concerning the timber harvest on the Davis Property. The harvest remains behind schedule. The Commission cannot move forward with the Disc Golf project until the timber harvest is completed. The grant deadline for establishing the Disc Golf course is March 2014.

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.

### **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 2013, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission reviewed three site plans and made recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission for Fee-in-Lieu of Open Space. The Commission also reviewed the sale of a town parcel and made recommendations to the town.

### **Training**

During 2013, 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.

<b>Training/Workshop Name</b>	<b>BCC Member Attended</b>
CACIWC Conference - November 16, 2013	Bev Thornton

Sincerely,

Jeannine Noel  
Brooklyn Conservation Commission Co-Chair  
cc: Melissa Bradley