



**Brooklyn Conservation
Commission**

P. O. Box 356
Brooklyn, CT 06234

March 5, 2018

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

Re: Brooklyn Conservation Commission 2017 Annual Report

Dear Leona,

The Brooklyn Conservation Commission proudly presents our annual report for the year 2017.

Activities\Projects\Grants

Diane Wimmer and Jeannine Noel were elected as Co-Chairs. Charlotte Merrill resigned from the Commission in August. Treasurer duties remain shared by the Chairs. The Commission continues to function within a reduced budget.

The Commission maintains a Facebook page. It is updated regularly with events, photos, conservation topics and local information.

The state of Connecticut passed Bill #6329 banning storage, disposal, and use of fracking waste in Connecticut. https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB06329&which_year=2017

At Family Fun Day, Diane Wimmer distributed seeds in cowpots. The remaining cowpots and other materials were donated to Parks and Recreation for their summer programs. The town held an Earth Day event in which Commission members participated by picking up trash and planting flowers and bushes at Riverside Park. The Commission planted blueberry bushes, pussy willows, mountain laurel, echinacea and brown-eyed susans which were purchased from the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District Spring Plant Sale.

The Disc Golf Course at Davis Forest continues to be enjoyed by residents. Parks and Recreation sponsored a tournament which was well attended. Brooklyn has several trails for residents to explore: Quinebaug River Trail, Maury Bowen Complex, Williams/Ferguson Sanctuary, Milo Appley Conservation Showcase, Davis Forest, Creamery Brook Trail, Carol Randall Memorial Nature Trail, and Donald Francis Recreation Park Trail. Trail maps can be found on the Conservation Commission's page on the Town's website under "Links" and "Brooklyn Trails". The Commission installed "No Motorized Vehicles" signs on several trails in Brooklyn.

Brooklyn Conservation Commission members continue to attend 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 Consortium meets twice a year and continues to educate members on conservation issues.

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 2017, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission reviewed two subdivision plans and recommended a deed restriction with an open space set aside for both.

Training

During 2017, Brooklyn Conservation Commission members attended local conservation and land use educational training events and free webinars at <http://clear.uconn.edu/>. Jeannine Noel attended a Fracking Waste Workshop in Hampton in February. These trainings and workshops are essential in developing the skills necessary to protect open space and the environment for future Brooklyn residents. The Commission continues to be a member of CACIWC (CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions).
<http://www.caciwc.org/>

Sincerely,

/s/Jeannine Noel

Jeannine Noel

Brooklyn Conservation Commission

cc: Melissa Bradley