

**Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 6, 2019
7:30pm Clifford B. Green Building**

Present: Diane Wimmer, Jeannine Noel, Dana Heilemann, Carolyn Teed-Ives, and April Lamothe; Recording Secretary

Also Present: Aaron Kerouac

- 1) **Call to Order:** Diane Wimmer called the meeting to order at 7:38pm.
- 2) **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Diane Wimmer made a correction to the April 1, 2019 minutes to add Carolyn Teed-Ives to the list of those present for the meeting. Jeannine Noel made a motion to approve the April 1, 2019 minutes with corrections. Dana Heilemann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.
- 3) **Budget 2018-19 and 2019-20:** Diane Wimmer has not heard anything about the budgets.
- 4) **New Business:**
 - a) **Davis Park Trails:** Diane Wimmer was forwarded an email from Parks and Recreation where Donna Devillez voiced her concern of the condition of the trails and ATVs. She wrote that some of the trails were overgrown, fallen trees, and were underwater. Parks and Recreation have cleaned up the brush and fallen ~~tresses~~ trees. Diane Wimmer said that the Commission can not do anything about the trails that are underwater, other than create new trails. The Davis Forest Trail use to have a bridge, but it was destroyed by the ATVs. Jeannine Noel mentioned that the trail maps should be updated. Discussion ensued. Jeannine Noel will check out the trails this weekend.
 - b) **Sustainability Project:** The next meeting will be held at the Brooklyn Town Hall on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7pm.
 - c) **Other:**
 - **Quinebaug Solar Energy Center:** Diane Wimmer and Jeannine Noel attended the April 30th public meeting about the solar farm. Some of the land is farmland and 54 acres will be cleared for the solar panels. The project has a 20-year use, but a 30-year plan, which includes decommission and returning the land back. Meadows and screening plants will be planted. If approved, the project would start early 2020 and be completed in 2020-2021.
 - **Family Fun Day:** Diane Wimmer will have a planting table at Family Fun Day. Jeannine Noel made a motion to spend up to \$100 for seeds, soil, peat moss pots for Family Fun Day. Carolyn Teed-Ives seconded the motion. Discussion: Dana Heilemann mentioned that Walmart had sent a classroom a seed plant kit; it might be something to look into next year. Diane Wimmer will reach out to high school students for volunteers. Carolyn Teed-Ives said that she would be available to help. Motion passed.
- 5) **Old Business:** Jeannine Noel collected eleven bags of trash near Johnny's Pizza for Earth Day. Diane Wimmer mentioned that a fellow teacher took their students in the trails behind the school and found tires that they are going to reuse.
- 6) **Public Comment:** Aaron Kerouac mentioned that he also attended the Quinebaug Solar Energy Center public meeting and he suggested that the Commission should request water tests to make sure the testing is done. He also mentioned that machines are tearing up the

land on the side of roads, which he is afraid will cause more wetlands/erosion. He asked if there was anything that the Commission could do to help; if there were track pads that Highway Department could use on their trucks/machines or mesh to keep soil in place. Diane Wimmer said that she is not sure where regulation would come from; she will mention it to Rick Ives.

- 7) **Adjournment:** Jeannine Noel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm. Dana Heilemann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

Sincerely Submitted,
April Lamothe
Recording Secretary