

**Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 7, 2018  
7:30pm Clifford B. Green Building**

**Present:** Diane Wimmer, Jeannine Noel, Michael Oatley, Dana Heilemann, and April Lamothe;  
Recording Secretary

- 1) **Call to Order:** Diane Wimmer called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.
- 2) **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Jeannine Noel made a motion to approve the April 2, 2018 minutes. Dana Heilemann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.
- 3) **New Business:**
  - a) **Subdivision Reviews:** None
  - b) **Reports on Sustainable Communities and Rain Gardens:**
    - **Sustainable CT:** Jeannine Noel attended the Sustainable CT workshop presented by Jessica LeClair. She said that in order to join, the Board of Selectmen would have to pass a resolution to indicate the intent to participate in Sustainable CT and establish a Sustainability Team. The Town would gain points for different actions (example: provide education on water conservation), which would lead to recognition if enough points are gained. This is a free program to get towns involved in sustainability in the environment, housing, local economy, public services, etc. It would allow for more resources, funding, workshops, and interaction with other towns. Discussion ensued. Diane Wimmer will take the pamphlets to Rick Ives and she would like Jeannine Noel to be the lead on this action.
    - **Rain Gardens and Barrels:** The Boy Scouts are having a build-a-rain-barrel workshop on June 6, 2018 from 7-8pm. Dana Heilemann mentioned that a good location would be at Riverside Park, right of the gazebo, behind the fence. Diane Wimmer mentioned installing rain barrels at the Town Hall so that the Garden Club could water their plants. Discussion ensued. Diane Wimmer asked Jeannine Noel to take point and contact Maura Robie to see if there are going to be more workshops, grants for plants, and raingarden workshops. Michael Oatley mentioned that UCONN has an app on creating rain gardens.
    - **Thames River Basin Floating Workshop:** Jeannine Noel said the workshop will be held on June 15, 2018.
    - **Protect Connecticut Public Lands by Supporting SJ35:** During the consortium meeting, Eric Hammerling spoke about Passport to the Parks, restoring bonding, and the bill to protect public land. Jeannine Noel said that currently public lands are not protected unless it is on the deed. The Conveyance Bill purposes to waive all other laws that may interfere with selling, trading, or giving public lands. Mae Flexer was a part of the committee who wrote the bill. The bill was adopted by the State Senate on May 7<sup>th</sup>.
    - **Backroads Killingly:** Donna Bronwell, chairperson of Killingly's Conservation Commission, created trails through different areas of Killingly.
- 4) **Financial Matters:**
  - Michael Oatley made a motion to refund Jeannine Noel \$9.02 for the flags for Riverside Park. Dana Heilemann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

- Jeannine Noel made a motion to allow Diane Wimmer to spend up to \$125 on soil, seeds, and planting containers for Family Fun Day. Dana Heilemann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.
- 5) **Subcommittee Reports:** Diane Wimmer said that she will have a table at Family Fun Day to plant sunflowers.
- 6) **Old Business:**
- Jeannine Noel told the Commission that the bee balm plant was taken from Riverside Park. Dana Heilemann suggested placing a sign saying Conservation Commission wildlife garden. Discussion ensued.
  - Diane Wimmer spoke to Doug Gagnon and he does not believe that he made the signs, but he will give an estimate to fix them.
- 7) **Correspondence:** Diane Wimmer handed out the Winter/Spring 2018 edition of *The Habitat*.
- 8) **Public Comment:** None
- 9) **Adjournment:** Jeannine Noel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. Dana Heilemann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.

Sincerely Submitted,  
April Lamothe  
Recording Secretary