

**East Haddam
Conservation Commission**

October 3, 2017

Adopted November 14, 2017

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017, at 7:30 PM at the River House. The Chairperson being in the Chair and the Secretary being present.

a. Roll Call

Rob Smith, Joe Zaid, Marilyn Gleeson, Todd Gelston

2. Approval of Agenda

Changed Next Meeting to November 7 from October 3.

Motion by Ms. Gleeson to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Mr. Gelston and unanimously approved.

3. Approval of Conservation Commission Minutes for 9/12/17

5a. Updated paragraph 3 to change “a” to “an”, add a d to Earlandsons, added “may”, “an agreement to allow” and removed the hyphen to Beefalo.

5a. Updated paragraph 4 to add “at the Hatch Lot vista”

5d. Added “new or different”

5f. Removed “the” before State, added “Park employees”, removed “and w” and changed “what” to “that”. Added “The replacement gravel” and “Lyme-Old Lyme”.

Motion by Mr. Gelston to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Gleeson and unanimously approved.

4. Old Business

a. Subcommittee updates

Stewardship and Forestry Management sub-committee: Mr. Gelston was unable to make the last stewardship event. He provided a new Conservation Commission Stewardship Project Priority list. At Hatch Lot, there was quite a bit of work completed to clean it up for the upcoming stewardship event. From the Hatch Lot vista, there are about 4 spots that one can see Long Island and Long Island Sound.

There will not be a work party this weekend; it will be postponed until Oct. 14. The focus will be determined. Mr. Smith needs to determine if there will be hunting on Dean on the 14th, as well as get an update on Millington Beefalo’s use of the land. Rose Farm will also be worked on after Dean.

Ms. Gleeson noted Lena has been mapped; there are a few updates that are needed. There is quite a bit of room for additional trails on the property as well.

Outreach and Promotion: The stewardship article has been submitted for the East Haddam News.

Volunteer Activism: Discussed under new business related to the stewardship event.

b. IWWC and P&Z updates

IWWC – Mr. Gelston did not attend the meeting, but he discussed it with the chairman. There is still focus on repairs to the sea walls on the lake.

P&Z – Mr. Zaid noted that P&Z is submitting a TIGER (Transportation Improvement Grant for Economic Recovery) Grant related to the East Haddam Swing Bridge for the pedestrian walkway. Mr. Zaid also reviewed that Dutch Propane wants to put an addition onto the health club facility across the street from its oil facility. There will be a Public Hearing on Oct. 24 to discuss. Travis Winkley on Smith Road wants to be able to host special events on Smith Farm. There will be another emergency communication tower placed on Clark Gates Road, in back of the school. On Beebe Road, P&Z approved a new house that abuts an easement; P&Z denoted that there is a need for a sign denoting the easement.

c. Plan of Conservation and Development

The CC will discuss the PoCD at the Forestry and Stewardship Sub-committee on Oct. 12. Discussion ensued around what has been done in town to protect more open space since the PoCD was last reviewed.

d. Discussion of last year's budget and projects

Mr. Gelston provided a copy of the budget to show that all of last year's budget was used for CC projects.

5. New Business

a. New bills

\$118.94 Shagbark bill, for paint brushes, stakes, drilling hammer, rake, ratchet tie down for the mower, gas can for the mower.

Motion by Mr. Gelston to pay the bill as presented. Second by Ms. Gleeson and unanimously approved.

b. Final planning for stewardship event

The East Haddam News included the stewardship event last week, but denoted it as a Land Trust Event. The following items are needed

- Donuts - Ms. Gleeson will bring donuts, from Staehlys, if the CC wants to offer apple cider donuts.
- Table – Mr. Smith will bring a table.
- Tablecloth – Ms. Goyette can supply a tablecloth.
- Cider – Ms. Gleeson will get cider from Staehlys as well.
- Cups, napkins
- Pumpkins – Ms. Gleeson can get them.
- Gourds – Mr. Smith has gourds to provide.
- Sign boards – Mr. Gelston can update the sign boards. There will be one at Hatch Lot, one at Clark Hill/Mill Road and one at Hungerford/Mill Road.
- Maps – Ms. Gleeson can bring.

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- Picnic tables – Mr. Smith and Mr. Zaid will get and place 2 picnic tables up on Hatch Lot.
- Patches – Mr. Gelston will bring patches.
- Signup sheets – Mr. Gelston will bring sign-up sheets, or will follow up with Mr. Sienna who has sign-up sheets from other events.
- Reminder – Ms. Goyette will send this section as a reminder to folks.

Mr. Smith will greet people as they arrive, and direct them to the Hatch Lot vista. Mr. Zaid and Mr. Gelston will set up the event up on the vista. Once event starts, Mr. Smith will provide opening remarks, denoting what the CC does and its goals and duties, what stewardship accomplishes, and that there is a core of about 7 volunteers who have blazed over 20 miles of trails. Mr. Gelston will then speak about the work party structure and how the work is organized. Then the event will focus on a hike to showcase the Hatch Lot.

- c. Public Comment
No public attended.

6. Next meeting – November 6, at The River House.

7. Announcements and other discussion

Discussion ensued about the next meeting being on Election Day. The CC decided to move the meeting to Nov. 6.

The Sub-committee on Oct. 12 will cover the Plan of Conservation and Development, a review of the Oct. 8 stewardship event and any forestry discussions and plans that are needed.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary

- Conservation Commission Stewardship Project Priority list
- East Haddam, Connecticut CERC Town Profile 2014