

**East Haddam
Conservation Commission
Forestry and Stewardship Sub-committee**

August 29, 2018

Adopted September 4, 2018

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Forestry and Stewardship sub-committee of the East Haddam Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, August 29, 2018, at 7:37 PM at Todd and Charlotte Gelston's residence on Bogel Road. The Chairperson being in the Chair and the Secretary being Present.

a. Roll Call

Rob Smith, Marilyn Gleeson, Sue Merrow, Todd Gelston, Charlotte Gelston

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. New Business

a. Schedule of work parties

1st priority: Mr. Smith noted that the orange trail needs to be addressed on the Dean property.

2nd priority: Mr. Smith is still trying to get permission to store the bridge components on Ray of Light Farm for the bridge over Hemlock Valley on Rose Farm. He has not obtained permission yet.

3rd priority: Boundary marking on Roaring Brook need to be addressed after the leaves fall. At future meetings, further priorities will be discussed and decided upon.

b. Signage

Mr. Smith is getting signs made for the back of the kiosk at Harris. There are several other kiosks and sign boards that need to be thought through. Kiosks are needed at

- Sabine on the east end at Daniel Peck
- Roaring Brook at parking lot
- Davison at parking lot
- Lena property at parking lot

c. Other stewardship topics

Mr. Smith noted that two days after the last CC meeting, Mr. (Paul) Buhl filed a FOI request to get the bridge plans. Mr. Smith submitted the necessary response for the request.

Mr. Smith also called Haddam Town Hall to find out who the Haddam Boy Scout troop leader is. He was able to find a contact and had some good conversation with the troop leader and the Scout Master. Their meeting nights are on Tuesdays which means he cannot attend. Mr. Smith asked if a Saturday night meeting will work. The special meeting will be on September 8, at 7pm. The topic is Mr. John Buhl's Eagle Scout project proposal with the Haddam Scout leaders and the CC. Mr. Smith will contact Mr. John Buhl and make sure he is aware that he does not have to attend the upcoming CC meeting this coming Tuesday (September 4).

Mr. Gelston talked about bridge construction and foundation work. The foundation can require quite a bit of engineering and work to build. Mr. Gelston suggested that the CC be responsible for all bridge construction and have Eagle Scouts and other scouting kids engage in other activities that are easier to do. The scouts could assist in bridge building and that could be included in community service and potentially integrated into an Eagle Scout project. The CC members felt that Mr. Gelston's idea is good policy.

Motion by Ms. Gelston that the Forestry and Stewardship sub-committee recommend a policy addition to the full Conservation Commission that all bridge construction projects henceforth fall under the aegis of the Conservation Commission from design through construction. Second by Ms. Gleeson and unanimously approved.

All bridge plans are either based on DEEP or Forest Service specifications or are engineered specifically for the space. Mr. Smith talked with Roger Nemergut and asked if he could provide some standards around bridge understructure (support beams) as the super-structure (railings, boards, etc.) are the same. Mr. Nemergut noted he can provide those as there are general guidelines around all the bridges created thus far. There is a cost, but given that the EHLT can also use these standards for their properties, the EHLT and CC can split the costs. Mr. Smith will make the recommendation to the full CC next Tuesday. Mr. Smith noted that the CC can provide the superstructure guidelines for pedestrian/bicycle and horse traffic bridge plans to Mr. Paul Buhl to answer the FOI request.

Ms. Gleeson asked Mr. Smith to request Mr. Ventres to attend the next CC meeting so that the CC can talk through how the CC would like to proceed with Eagle Scout project proposals.

Ms. Gelston noted that it would be a good idea to suggest the other needs that could be included in Mr. (John) Buhl's Eagle Scout project like the kiosk.

d. Public comment
No public attended.

4. Announcements and other discussion
None other discussion noted.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary