# KENT CONSERVATION COMMISSION Kent Town Hall 41 Kent Green Boulevard Kent, Connecticut 06757

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING November 14, 2018



Present: Commissioners Liddy Baker, Melissa Cherniske, Carol Franken, Rick Levy, Wendy Murphy and Donna Sommers; advisor Jos Spelbos; guest Maddy Stevens. Absent: Connie Manes.

Prior to the meeting the following items were distributed via email:

- A. Draft Agenda
- B. Draft Minutes of Meeting of October 10, 2018
- C. Approved Minutes of the September 2018 meeting
- D. Draft schedule of meetings in 2019
- 1. Call to order.

Vice-chair Carol Franken called the meeting to order at 6.36 pm.

2. Accept/Amend Agenda.

After adding item 7B Commissioner terms, the agenda was unanimously accepted upon a motion by Melissa, seconded by Liddy.

3. Review, amend, approve meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Melissa, seconded by Liddy, the Minutes of the October 10 regular meeting were unanimously approved after amending 6J.

4. Treasurer's report

Liddy presented her treasurer's report showing \$160 in expenses in the past month for dues paid to CACIWC, the Rivers Alliance and the CLCC, leaving a balance of \$2615.

5. Public Comment

Maddy Stevens was present to participate in the discussion about recycling.

- 6. Old Business
- 6A. Ballot question #2: Protect CT Public Lands

The November 6 ballot question to amend the state constitution to require more public input before disposing of public lands passed by a wide margin in both the state and the town. Commission members had helped spread the word about this ballot question

#### 6B. Recycling initiatives

# 6B1. Straws and single-use plastics

Maddy discussed Kent Center School plastic use with principal Mott. The school uses plastic straws and disposable styrofoam bowls, but also reusable plates and silverware, and is interested in exploring cutting down on disposables. Maddy will talk to some classes about plastic use and distribute some free HRRA materials. She, Peter Jensen and Connie Manes plan to interview businesses about their single-use plastic usage and list the information in a spreadsheet.

## 6B2,3. WRAP - Trex Recycling Challenge at KCS and America Recycles Day

Connie will present the collection bin for plastic film and bag recycling to KCS on National Recycling Day November 15, starting the WRAP Recycling Challenge sponsored by Trex. The Kent Transfer Station collects plastic films and bags separately, but does not recycle them because of contamination and wetness. It was suggested we ask them to place their collection bin undercover, and add a sign asking for clean plastics only.

#### 6B4. Terracycle

The company Terracycle sells collection boxes for all kinds of materials that are not normally recycled, and tries to recycle them into other products. See terracycle.com. The Washington Environmental Council has bought some.

#### 6B5. Glass separation

The suggestion was made to invite HRRA executive director Jennifer Heaton-Jones to come to one of our meetings to discuss HRRA's proposal to recycle glass separately, and to inform us about the changing costs of recycling after China blocked further imports of most recyclables.

#### 6C. Veteran's Day tree presentation

On Veteran's Day Rick dedicated the maple tree sponsored by the commission and planted near the Veteran's Memorial on Maple Street to the town's veterans. Several commission members attended.

#### 6D. Western CT Clean Air Action

Carol reported on progress made toward obtaining funding and social media presence. A comment was made to improve the Facebook page.

#### 6E. Use of road salt in Kent

Liddy was told by Rick Osborne that the town will use only salt on the roads this winter, as in recent years, and no sand.

6F.	Fracking waste ordinance	Tabled
6G.	NCRI resource maps	Tabled
6H.	<b>HVA-Greenprint Regional corridors and connectors</b>	Tabled
6I.	Sustainable CT	Tabled

#### 6J. Tree planting

Templeton Farms is interested in having a shade tree. Melissa will check with Kent Greenhouse.

#### 6K. KCS Schoolvard Habitat

Melissa noted that their committee wants to create a video live stream to KCS from a bluebird box.

#### 6L. Welcome to Kent brochure

This item will be taken off the agenda.

These are Draft Minutes and are not considered final until approved. Corrections may be made by the Commission at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible changes or corrections.

### 6M. <u>Trails brochure</u>

Liddy has only 4 copies left. A new printing is planned.

## 6N. Agritourism on NW-CT farms

None of the commission members attended the NHCOG forum on agritourism.

## 7. New Business

#### 7A. 2019 KCC meeting schedule

Connie had emailed a draft schedule of meeting dates. Upon a motion by Melissa, seconded by Liddy, the schedule was accepted.

# 7B. Commissioner terms

Rick and Wendy's terms expire in December. Upon a motion by Melissa and seconded by Liddy commissioners unanimously recommended reappointing both for another 3 year term. Donna has been an alternate for more than 3 years, but isn't listed on the Board of Selectmen's list of commission members. A motion to add her name to the list was unanimously approved.

## 8. Correspondence

On November 17 the annual conference of the Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions will be held in Cromwell, see caciwc.org.

## 9. Adjourn.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8.00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jos Spelbos December 6, 2018

