

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
December 12, 2018

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KENT TOWN CLERK

2018 DEC 26 A 9:26

BY *D. Brady*
TOWN CLERK

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

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

- A. Draft Agenda
- B. Draft Minutes of Meeting of November 14, 2018
- C. Approved Minutes of the October 2018 meeting
- D. WRAP Challenge video for KCS by Aiden Cherniske, December 6, 2018

1. Call to order.
Chair Connie Manes called the meeting to order at 6.35 pm.
2. Accept/Amend Agenda.
After adding item 7B the amended agenda was unanimously accepted upon a motion by Wendy, seconded by Connie.
3. Review, amend, approve meeting Minutes
Upon a motion by Wendy, seconded by Carol, the Minutes of the November 14 regular meeting were unanimously approved without changes.
4. Treasurer's report
There are no changes to our budget balance. Connie proposed to discuss a KCC allocation for the Cricket Valley powerplant air monitoring in our 2019/20 budget.
5. Public Comment
Peter Jensen and Maddy Stevens were present to participate in the discussion about recycling.

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6. Old Business

6A. Recycling initiatives

6A1. Straws and single-use plastics

Peter Jensen will work with the Kent Chamber of Commerce and individual merchants on assembling and dispersing information regarding local use and reduction of single-use plastics. He presented a survey spreadsheet. It was suggested to inform the merchants of the survey at the next CoC meeting early January and to ask Lynn Worthington to write an article about it afterwards.

Rick would like to contact a Connecticut responsible packaging entrepreneur.

Maddy Stevens plans to make KCS second graders aware of the plastics issue, and will follow up with KCS staff regarding alternatives.

6A2. WRAP – Trex Recycling Challenge at KCS

Connie placed a collection bin for plastic bags and film at KCS on November 15, and has since picked up a full bag, which she will take to Big Y supermarket, a participant in the challenge. She will ask the first selectman about placing a second collection bin in Town Hall.

KCS student Aiden Cherniske produced a short video explaining what items can be collected.

6A3. Glass separation

The HRRA is starting a pilot program to collect glass separately from other recycling materials, and a separate container is being placed at the Transfer Station. Curbside recycling will not change yet.

6B. Western CT Clean Air Action

Carol and Wendy reported that WCCAA has received several funding commitments, and that Kent School is placing a primary air quality monitoring station at its campus, while the High Watch Recovery Center in North Kent and the Town of Washington will purchase and install satellite devices. WCCAA is trying to raise more money towards the primary station, additional satellites and maintenance costs. Besides approaching individual and institutional contributors they want to ask towns in the region for annual appropriations. The commission discussed if Kent's contribution should be paid via the conservation commission or a separate town budget line.

6C. Use of road salt in Kent

Jos will email a Cary Institute article about road salt to commission members and contact Rick Osborne.

6D. Tree planting

No more tree planting this season.

6E. SustainableCT

Connie mentioned that Kent resident James Barron attended Al Gore's trainings program for Climate change ambassadors and as such is looking to do public presentations. Connie will ask him to do a presentation in Kent.

6F. Trails book

Tabled

6G. NCRI resource maps

Tabled

6H. HVA-Greenprint Regional corridors and connectors

Tabled

6I. Fracking waste ordinance

Tabled

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6J. Update commissioners' terms

Connie conveyed the commission's request for reappointments to the town clerk

7. New Business

7A. Schedule for annual April events

The Arbor Day celebration and our tree planting at Kent Center School are scheduled for Friday April 26, 2019.

With Easter being on Sunday April 21, Earth Day on April 22 and KCS school vacation April 15-19, the library event will likely be scheduled for April 17, and the town road cleanup for April 12-21.

7B. Town commissions and departments joint meeting

Connie attended a recent meeting where various town commission and staff representatives discussed their objectives and mutual collaboration.

8. Correspondence

None

9. Adjourn.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8.25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jos Spelbos
December 24, 2018

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