

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 9, 2019

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

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

- A. Draft Agenda by Carol
- B. Draft Minutes of Meeting of December 12, 2018
- C. Approved Minutes of the November 2018 meeting
- D. Email from Jos 12/24 with Cary IES Road salt report
- E. Email from Wendy 12/27 regarding powerline clearing

1. Call to order.
Vice-chair Carol Franken called the meeting to order at 6.36 pm.
2. Accept/Amend Agenda.
The agenda was unanimously accepted upon a motion by Wendy, seconded by Liddy.
3. Review, amend, approve meeting Minutes
Upon a motion by Wendy, seconded by Donna, the draft Minutes of the December 12 regular meeting were unanimously approved without changes.
4. WCCAA Update
Wendy and Carol reported that the main air monitoring unit has been installed at Kent School and that the Kent Board of Selectmen is willing to contribute \$4500 towards that \$46,000 purchase, but it is not clear yet from what budget line. The KCC may be asked to add a future budget line for yearly unit maintenance, but the \$4500 needed now has to come from a different source. Six other towns are purchasing \$4500 satellite units.
5. Treasurer's report and budget
Liddy reported that there are no changes to our budget balance. Melissa found sandwich board signs for advertising the April road cleanup at a cost of \$370. Carol estimated the costs for the Library Earth Day event at \$150 for a speaker plus \$70 for small plants for the kids and \$50 for picture books. Some discussion took place about our upcoming budget request. Liddy will adjust the budget and send it around for input before presenting it to the BoS, but we first have to find out from the BoS how the WCCAA costs will be handled.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
KENT TOWN CLERK

2019 JAN 22 A 9:15

BY J. Brady
TOWN CLERK

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6. Public Comment
None
7. Goals and strategies for 2019
Tabled
8. Old Business
 - 8A. Recycling initiatives
 - 8A1. Straws and single-use plastics

Maddy Stevens will do a classroom presentation at Kent Center School, and she has persuaded the principal to make plastic straws only available upon request. Carol will arrange with Melissa to get some publicity for this at the KCS Earth Day event.

Peter Jensen attended a Chamber of Commerce board meeting and found some support for a single-use plastic survey among merchants, but also some hesitation to cut back on single-use plastic. Carol will ask Connie to use her diplomatic skills to achieve progress.
 - 8A2. WRAP – Trex Recycling Challenge at KCS

The commission decided that KCS can use a second collection bin, since the first bin fills up quickly, and that a bin at Town Hall may not get enough use.
 - 8A3. Glass separation

The Transfer Station will start collecting glass separately from other recyclables.
 - 8B. Use of road salt in Kent

Jos asked Rick Osborne and Bruce Adams in an email about ways the town is limiting its use of road salt and negative effects on the environment, but received only a referral to the deicing product used.
 - 8C. Review April events

Liddy is again organizing the town-wide litter pickup, planned for April 12-19, with a Transfer Station celebration on Saturday April 20.

Carol is organizing an Earth Day event for children at the Memorial Library, with as theme Air. She will get a speaker, small plants for the kids and some books on the subject.

Jos, Melissa and Connie will be involved in the KCS Arbor Day/ Earth Day celebration on Friday April 26.
 - 8D. Tree planting

A new tree will be planted at KCS on April 26. Jos will check the trees that have been planted or sponsored by the commission in town in recent years for maintenance needs.
 - 8E. Trails book

Tabled
 - 8F. NCRI and resource maps

Jos sent an updated Soil chapter to Wendy. He got a funding commitment from the Land Use officer for an updated Soil-based zoning map, and will provide the HVA-GIS manager with the new information.
 - 8G. Fracking waste ordinance

Tabled

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9. New Business

9A. Eversource clearing in powerline corridors

Wendy drew attention to seemingly excessive clearing and graveling under major powerlines, such as near Bulls Bridge and Gaylordsville. New safety and maintenance standards require gravel pads under the powerline transmission towers and gravel access roads to allow larger machinery, destroying early-successional habitat.

10. Correspondence

None

11. Adjourn.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jos Spelbos
January 20, 2019

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