


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

REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2017

MINUTES

BY 
TOWN CLERK
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APR 12 2017

Present: Commissioners Liddy Baker, Melissa Cherniske, Rick Levy, Connie Manes, Wendy Murphy, Donna Sommers; advisors Laurie Doss and Jos Spelbos. Guest: Debbie Bennett. Absent: Carol Franken.

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

- A. Draft Agenda
- B. Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting March 8, 2017
- C. Approved Minutes of the February 2017 meeting

1. Call to order.
A quorum being present chair Connie Manes called the meeting to order at 7.08 pm.
2. Accept/Amend Agenda.
Upon a motion by Liddy seconded by Melissa the agenda as presented was unanimously accepted.
3. Review, amend, approve minutes of Regular Meeting of March 8, 2017.
Upon a motion by Liddy, seconded by Wendy, the Minutes as drafted were unanimously approved.
4. Treasurer's Report and Budget.
Liddy submitted her written report, noting expenses for the Arbor Day and Earth Day events, totaling \$410.82, leaving a balance of \$2267.14. 200 new trail books are being printed at a cost of \$1700, with half to be paid from the present KCC budget, and half through the Kuga Fund.
5. Public Comment
Debbie Bennett was present in her role as Cornwall Conservation Commissioner, to get new ideas for her own commission.
6. April events
 - 6A. Spring litter clean-up
Liddy reported that many people have signed up for the town-wide road cleanup April 17-23. She is distributing bags. She got the state DOT to commit to clean routes 7 and 341.
 - 6B. Library children's event
This event will take place on Saturday April 15. It was noted that the event was well promoted this year.
 - 6C. KCS Arbor Day program
Melissa and Jos reported that Kent Greenhouse will remove a dying maple in front of the school and replace it with a 3-3.5" caliper sugar maple on Thursday April 27. The cost of \$564.90, including soil

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and mulch, is being shared by the Conservation Commission and the Kent Garden Club. The KCS students will dedicate the tree on Friday 2pm. After school on Friday Melissa and Jos, with help from students and teacher Joshua Szwed, will weed and mulch the trees and shrubs in the outdoor classroom behind the school.

It was noted that a riverbirch tree that had fallen over along Maple Street still hasn't been removed by either the state or the town.

7. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle campaign

7A. Streetside recycling containers

Liddy reported that Michael van Valkenburg will build trash and recycling containers from black locust lumber. He will change 3 existing trash bins to recycling bins to pair up with the other 3 existing bins, and build 3 new pairs for about \$2500. We have received grants of \$2700 and \$200 to pay for this. The first pair will be placed at the new visitor center.

We will have to get signs such as Kent Recycles and the recycling logo, with a blue panel, as well as trash signs.

7B. WRAP plastic bag and film recycling campaign

No news.

7C. Changes at Kent Transfer Station

Connie noted that Jen Ianucci of the HERRA has helped the transfer station improve the recycling setup, and that the state is building new plants for organics recycling.

7D. Municipal assessment of recycling compliance

Liddy reported that first selectman Bruce Adams has filled out this assessment. The commission would like to get a copy so we can determine where we can improve.

8. NCRI update and Open Space Plan

Tabled

9. NHCOG POCD update and Trails project

Jos reported on a recent NHCOG forum on attracting/retaining young people and meeting the needs of an aging population.

10. Old Business

10A. Turtles crossing signs

Connie will give the signs to the highway foreman to put up on Camps Flat Road, South Kent Road and/or Bulls Bridge Road for the May-June period.

10B. P&ZC Zoning Regulations

P&Z are still continuing their special meetings on revising the regulations.

10C. Hatch Pond

No update

10D. River Road and North Kent Road#2

A town meeting will be held on April 21 at 7pm to discuss closing parts of these unpaved, dead-end roads to traffic by way of gates, to limit overuse and littering of the shores of the Housatonic River, which has become a serious problem in the last year. Connie mentioned that one of the concerns is that HVA is planning a boat launch at the end of North Kent Road, on state owned land.

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11. New Business
Connie is renting a van to go to the Climate March in Washington, DC on April 29, and is inviting others to join.
12. Correspondence
None
13. Adjourn.
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8.37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jos Spelbos, May 7, 2017

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