

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

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
September 13, 2017

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
KENT TOWN CLERK  
2017 OCT -2 A 8:51  
BY J. Bradley  
TOWN CLERK

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

Absent: Rick Levy.

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

- A. Draft Agenda
  - B. Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting July 12, 2017
  - C. Approved Minutes of the June 2017 meeting
1. Call to order.  
A quorum being present chair Connie Manes called the meeting to order at 5.37 pm.
  2. Accept/Amend Agenda.  
After adding 3 items to New Business as 9B, C and D, the amended agenda was unanimously accepted upon a motion by Liddy seconded by Melissa.
  3. Review, amend, approve minutes of Regular Meeting of July 12, 2017.  
Upon a motion by Wendy seconded by Liddy the Minutes as drafted were unanimously approved. There was no meeting in August.
  4. Treasurer's Report  
Liddy reported that a balance of \$10.89 was left at the end of last year's budget. \$48.51 was spent in the last month on recycling bags for the town's event containers. More resource books were sold. A first bill was received from Mike Van Valkenburg for the new custom-made recycling and trash containers. They cost \$250 each, and refurbishing the old trash bins costs \$100 each. Most of the bins have been placed along the village streets. They will be funded mostly from the grants the town received for this purpose.
  5. Public Comment          None
  6. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle campaign
  - 6A. Streetside recycling containers  
See under 4.  
Jos noted that China has decided to cut the import of waste and recycling products from abroad. Since they are the largest market for US recycling materials this will mean a serious blow to the market for recyclables until the US can build up its own recycling facilities and/or find ways to cut back on waste production.
  - 6B. Kent Visitor Center  
Liddy noted that the Kent Garden Club has allocated \$3000 for plantings at the Welcome Center. See also under 9D.

---

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.

7. Updates
- 7A. River Road and North Kent Road gates  
According to the first selectman there have been no problems at these river access sites this season since the (temporary) gates were put up. Melissa pointed out a problem with dirt bikes in the preserves off North Kent Road.  
Connie reported that the HVA is still trying to get an informal boat launch established with the money from the General Electric/ EPA resource restoration grant, but it is hard to get all involved parties to work together.
- 7B. Welcome to Kent town guide  
Tabled
8. Old business
- 8A. P&Z zoning regulations update  
The Planning and Zoning Commission will present its revised regulations again to the landuse attorney for review, before scheduling a public hearing.  
Jos noted that two Casey family parcels in the village are listed for sale: the 8.6 acre field beyond town hall, which has been considered by P&Z for an Incentive Housing Zone, and 67 acres of farmland and forest above North Main Street.
- 8B. NCRI update and Open Space Plan  
Jos contacted HVA's new GIS manager regarding the cost of updating our natural resource maps.
- 8C. Railroad spraying  
Connie will check who in town is contact person for the railroad spraying notifications, and how the Board of Selectmen plans to follow up.  
Liddy noted that the railroad crossing with Main Street is slated to be upgraded this winter. We will try to make sure that it will fit in with the streetscape.
- 8D. CT State PoCD and Locational Guide Map  
Connie and Jos have reviewed the map, which indicates the village as a priority funding area, and shows areas of conservation value. They will contact the landuse officer Donna Hayes and NHGOG director Jocelyn Ayer about potentially making changes to the map.
9. New Business
- 9A. NHCOG PoCD  
Jos and Connie reviewed the draft of the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development, and will send some comments to the NHCOG. Public hearings will take place in Goshen on September 19.  
Since the Growth Policy Map in this plan will be based on the new state map (see 8D), having a locational guide map that reflects the town's priorities is all the more important.
- 9B. Macro-invertebrate sampling  
Laurie is willing to again lead a stream bio-assessment effort by volunteers in October. No leafpacks will be placed. We have had to cancel the last two years because of unusually low water levels. Jos will try to prioritize streams and locations for sampling.  
Laurie informed the commission of an October 30 presentation on how volunteers can be involved in updating the state's bird atlas.

---

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.

- 9C. Littering ordinance  
Connie stated that under state law towns can prohibit littering without an ordinance. Kent, like many towns, does not have a littering ordinance. She wants to ask the town to put up “no littering” signs at North-Kent Road, since the town already seems to have that authority.
- 9D. Tree planting  
Wendy has been notified by Bruce Bennett, owner of Kent Greenhouse, that he is willing to donate 5 sugar maples, 5 red maples and 5 redbud trees, 1½-2” caliper, if we can find suitable locations for them. The KGh can plant them at a cost of \$60 each, which pays for labor, compost and mulch. Liddy will contact the Garden Club about using redbuds near the Welcome Center. Melissa will contact the owners of the Golden Falcon lot on N-Main Street. We will suggest other locations to Wendy, who will then contact property owners.
10. Correspondence  
Connie distributed copies of CACIWC’s newsletter The Habitat.
11. Adjourn.  
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7.08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jos Spelbos, October 1, 2017

---

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.

**WARNINGS:** MaryAnn V. warned for Recruitment and Retention project funds.  
Eric E. warned for Grant Matching Funds and possible additional SCBA Upgrades and any other related items.  
Tim L. warned for expenses for Fire Prevention Week.

Tim L. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2153 hours. Seconded by Gwen P. Voting yes: Bonnie D., Eric E., Alan G., Gary H., Audra P., Mike P., Gwen P., Caralee R., Wendell S., Jean S., Rebecca T. and MaryAnn V.  
Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 2153 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Caralee Rochovansky,  
Secretary,  
Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

*These are draft minutes and corrections may be made by the Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. membership at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.*