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*By Darlene Brady at 9:30 am, May 23, 2022*

# TOWN OF KENT

Conservation Commission

Draft Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 @ 7:00pm

Members in attendance: Liddy Baker, Carol Franken, Connie Manes, Wendy Murphy, Jos Spelbos

Members of the public in attendance: Stan Greenbaum, Miranda Lovato

Call to order

A quorum being present, Commission Chair Connie Manes called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

1. Accept/amend Agenda. – a Special Meeting's agenda can not be changed.
2. Accept/amend minutes of Regular Meeting April 13, 2022. Upon a motion by Liddy Baker seconded by Wendy Murphy, the minutes of the April 13, 2022 Regular Meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Liddy Baker submitted her report. \$237.69 was spent on the road clean-up and the library books. There is a balance of \$1971 to be spent.
4. Public comment. Two members of the public were present but no comments.
5. Old Business:

## A. Debrief April Events

### i. Town Clean Up.

Liddy reported that the Town Clean Up was a success. The Scouts did the Village. All three of our town private high schools worked. KCC arranged for personalized cakes for the Scouts, the South Kent School students and the Marvelwood students. Lots of trash particularly the mini liquor bottles and masks. Not as many volunteers as in the past. The DOT in New Milford did not conduct a road clean-up south of the monument on route 7 (too few employees) but Cornwall DOT did on route 341 and north on route 7. The Chamber of Commerce did contribute for the supplies of bags and gloves.

### ii Arbor Day.

Jos reported that the tree planting went well. A Chinquapin Oak was planted on Bridge Street just east of the future liquor store. The whole school walked over to the site and enjoyed it tremendously. The tree was donated so no expense to the Garden Club or KCC. Rick Osborne and his men dug/prepared the hole. Thanks to them and to Jos. KCS would like to continue in future years to plant trees around town.

Thanks to Bartlett Trees each student at KCS was given a seedling (several different types) and instructions on care. KCC has posted on social media our thanks to all those that made this happen. Jean Speck was asked to include this in her news that she sends out. Melissa will help that happen.

## B. Kent Land Trust Picnic.

The KCC will share a table with the AMC and the Garden Club. Wendy and Liddy will man it with help from Mike. Wendy has a tent and will get it to KLT ahead of time. Sustainable CT will also have table. Connie has our sign.

## C. Kent POCD.

There was a recorded meeting of that committee and Melissa suggested that we all listen to it. Wendy has a serious objection to the draft POCD. It does not cover climate change at all and there are so many new technologies that should be encouraged.. There is a Clean Energy Network for over 60 towns in CT and we all need to explore these resources. .Connie will call a special meeting to discuss the draft POCD: June 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm. The next POCD meeting will be June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## D. Native Plants and Pollinator Pathway

Many are following "No Mow May". Signs are up in places where no mowing is happening, The schools, the Casey property, Town Hall and many more. We need to watch for the bills that are being worked on in CT that ban the use of bad chemicals, etc.

E. Solar education program

There is an organization – PACE – that has been in existence for 30 years. Wendy has been in touch with them and they, with the library, will be giving the town a presentation in October to educate all on Solar possibilities.

F. Children's program at KML

June 11<sup>th</sup> at the library – Melissa has stepped in and will be doing the program. It will be for all ages. Plants will be planted and together with more information will be given to participants. KCC members should try to be present.

G. Open Space Purchasing Ordinance

Nothing to report

H. Recommendations for KCC Home page.

Jos has circulated his suggestions. Wendy feels strongly that the KCC officers names and terms should be there as well as clear instructions as to how to join a meeting. We are limited by the web design used by town hall. Melissa will talk to Darlene.

I. Sustainable Materials Management

Jean reported that the town is waiting for the DEEP grant. It will fund a pilot program for composting at our transfer station. This should happen in June. Participants will be given an at-home container for compost as well as a tote to use to bring the compost to the transfer station. Discussion is on-going about the need for a transfer station permit. Did we know that anyone, even without a permit, can bring mattresses and paint to the transfer station? Jean also reported on the KCS poster competition.

J. Kent Trails: A Hiker's Guide

Wendy and Liddy will work on the updates and John Baker will start updating the few maps that need it.

K. Sustainable CT

Miranda Lovato is on the committee and reported. They are promoting the Pollinator Pathway and planning for the Energy Task Force presentation in the Fall.

L. Legislative Sessions

The session is over. Many bills that we are interested in were passed. KCC members should check the CCM and COST sites for more information.

6. New Business – none

7. Correspondence – Jean was in Town Hall and checked for us. None.

8. Adjourn at 8:27pm

*NEXT MEETING: Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm*

Respectfully submitted by: Liddy Baker, temporary secretary