



KENT CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Kent Town Hall
41 Kent Green Boulevard
Kent, Connecticut 06757

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
July 12, 2017

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

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

- A. Draft Agenda
- B. Draft Minutes of Regular Meeting June 14, 2017
- C. Approved Minutes of the May 2017 meeting
- D. NHCOC meeting agenda 6-29-2017
- E. NHCOC PoCD goals and actions 6-29-2017
- F. Message 7-6-2017 regarding railroad spraying legislation

- 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 Wendy seconded by Rick the agenda as presented was unanimously accepted.
- 3. Review, amend, approve minutes of Regular Meeting of June 14, 2017.
Upon a motion by Rick seconded by Wendy the Minutes as drafted were unanimously approved.
- 4. Treasurer's Report
Liddy reported no expenses in the last month. Connie reported that she has a bill for \$55 from D&S Auto to dispose of the tires collected during the town cleanup.
- 5. Public Comment None
- 6. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle campaign
- 6A. Streetside recycling containers
Rick mentioned that all existing containers fill up, and that shop owners want to keep one near their store. Liddy will talk with Bruce Adams, Rick Osborne and Mike van Valkenburg about additional locations.
- 6B. Kent Visitor Center
No news.
- 6C. Village Cleanup - tires
Connie took the collected old tires to D&S Auto for disposal/recycling.
- 6D. WRAP plastic bag and film recycling campaign
No news
- 7. Updates
- 7A. River Road and North Kent Road gates

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A gate has been installed on River Road by CT-DEEP; it will be controlled by Appalachian Trail volunteers. There is apparently no state money at this moment to install a gate on North Kent Road, but the town has been putting barricades at the road entrances during the summer weekends. Liddy noted that Kent doesn't have littering laws and therefore can't put up signs prohibiting littering.

7B. Welcome to Kent town guide

Wendy presented her idea to the Board of Selectmen and got their backing. She will spearhead the effort, coordinate with the various town organizations, and look for support from the Chamber of Commerce.

7C. State legislation HB 5873 regarding railroad spraying

Melissa had forwarded a Facebook posting by representative Brian Ohler regarding the passage of his bill "Requiring notice prior to pesticide/herbicide applications by railroad companies and requiring vegetation management plans by such companies". This would give our towns and residents input in the management of vegetation growth along the Housatonic Railroad.

8. Old business

8A. P&Z zoning regulations update

The Planning and Zoning Commission is holding another series of special meetings to finalize the draft regulations.

8B. NCRI update and Open Space Plan

No news.

9. New Business

9A. CT Conservation and Development Policies Plan

Connie and Jos attended a presentation at the June 29 NHCOC meeting by the state Office of Policy and Management. The draft of the 2018-2023 plan and a Locational Guide Map can be downloaded at ct.gov/opm/cdplan. The updated plan is similar to the 2013-2018 version. It targets state funding for development projects to Priority Funding Areas. In Kent this means the village center. The new draft gives towns a greater say into the delineation of these areas and more leeway to adapt them to new town plans and priorities.

9B. NHCOC PoCD

At the same meeting a draft was presented of the Northwest Hills Regional Plan of Conservation and Development, in particular its Goals, Policies and Actions, and a Growth Policy Map. This was distributed to the Conservation Commission members. The hope is to adopt these goals, policies and actions at the COG meeting on September 14, after receiving input from the towns. Connie asked commissioners to give their comments before or at our next scheduled meeting on September 13. More information, including maps, is available at northwesthillscog.org. Connie hopes we can cosponsor a public presentation to the town on the regional plan after September.

10. Correspondence None

11. Adjourn.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8.15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jos Spelbos, August 19, 2017

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KENT TOWN CLERK

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BY  TOWN CLERK

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