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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING October 11, 2017



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

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

- A. Draft Agenda
- B. Draft Minutes of Special Meeting September 13, 2017
- C. Approved Minutes of the July 2017 meeting
- D. Correspondence on possible street tree locations
- E. New Hartford Open space tax abatement ordinance
- F. Information on towns trying to regulate fracking waste
- 1. Call to order.

A quorum being present chair Connie Manes called the meeting to order at 7.03 pm.

2. Accept/Amend Agenda.

After adding items 6C, 8E&F, and 9ABC&D the amended agenda was unanimously accepted upon a motion by Melissa seconded by Liddy.

- 3. Review, amend, approve minutes of Special Meeting of September 13, 2017.

 Upon a motion by Wendy seconded by Liddy the Minutes as drafted were unanimously approved.
- 4. Treasurer's Report

Liddy presented a balance sheet showing a recent expense of \$198.83, this being the balance of the costs for 5 custom-made sets of trash/recycling bins for the village streets and adapting several old trash bins; after applying \$2900 in grants received for this purpose.

- 5. Public Comment None
- 6. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle campaign
- 6A. Streetside recycling containers

Donna will provide our event recycling bins to the Gilmore Girls festival organizers.

- 6B. <u>Kent Visitor Center</u>
 - See 7A.
- 6C. WRAP campaign

Connie is trying to get the Kent Center School to enroll in the state's WRAP program.

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7. Updates

7A. Street tree planting donations

Liddy noted that the Garden Club welcomes the donation of 4 redbud trees by the Kent Greenhouse for the Welcome Center. A number of other potential locations for tree planting were discussed and will be evaluated.

7B. Macro-invertebrate sampling

The commission discussed which sites to sample. Laurie will present a training session on Wednesday 10/18 at 1.30 pm at Kent Fall State Park.

7C. North Kent boat launch

Tabled

7D. Welcome to Kent town guide

Tabled

8. Old business

8A. P&Z zoning regulations update

Tabled

8B. NCRI update and Open Space Plan Tabled

8C. CT State PoCD and Locational Guide Map

Connie and Jos will meet with landuse officer Donna Hayes to make adjustments to the map.

8D. NHCOG PoCD

Jos and Connie sent their comments on the draft regional Plan of Conservation and Development to the Council of Governments, and attended public hearings on the plan. Connie approached the Kent Chamber of Commerce about working together on some of the plan's recommendations, but didn't find much enthusiasm yet.

8E. Littering law

Connie will talk with the Board of Selectmen.

8F. Railroad spraying

Connie will follow up with the first selectman.

9. New Business

9A. Turtle crossing signs

The signs that were put up at Camps Flat Road have disappeared.

9B. <u>Cricket Valley powerplant</u>

The gasfired powerplant in Dover, NY has started construction, and in Sherman and New York State efforts to halt the plant have picked up again. A meeting of activists will be held in Wingdale On Saturday 10/14 at noon.

9C. Fracking ordinance

Melissa would like the Town of Kent to adopt an ordinance banning the use and transport of fracking waste in Kent. Discussion centered on whether language in the proposed new zoning regulations under Environmental Standards provides enough protection. We will study existing fracking ordinances to help decide whether to push for such an ordinance.

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9D. Open space tax abatement ordinance

Connie had distributed a copy of such an ordinance adopted in New Hartford, which is meant to promote the donation of conservation easements to the town.

10. Correspondence

None.

11. Adjourn.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8.57 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jos Spelbos, October 29, 2017

