

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

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
November 13, 2019

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
KENT TOWN CLERK

2019 DEC -3 A 11:47

*Donna Sommers*  
BY TOWN CLERK

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

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

- A. Draft Agenda by Carol
- B. Draft Minutes of Meeting of October 16, 2019 by Jos
- C. Approved Minutes of the September 11 meeting

1. Call to order  
Connie called the meeting to order at 6.41 pm.
2. Accept/amend agenda  
After adding item 7D the amended agenda was accepted unanimously, upon a motion by Melissa seconded by Liddy.
3. Review, amend, approve meeting Minutes  
The October Minutes were amended to show that Melissa abstained from voting on item 3, and approved as amended after a motion by Melissa and a second by Wendy.
4. Treasurer's report  
Liddy reported no new expenses, and a Kuga Fund balance of \$8823.94 plus \$456 for tree maintenance.
5. Public comment  
None
6. Old Business
  - 6A. Reduce, Reuse, Recycling initiatives
    - 6A1. Merchant participation survey  
Connie will circulate a draft press release about the survey and single-use plastics.
    - 6A2. WRAP program at KCS  
Connie noted that the reporting requirements have changed.
    - 6A3. Recycle bins  
It was proposed to ask the town clerk to manage the lending of the event bins and to list that phone number as contact on the town website.

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6A4. Refocus recycling education

We need to emphasize reduce and reuse more. Signage at the transfer station needs to be improved. We will seek to start a dialogue with the new selectmen and with the transfer station managers.

6B. Use of road salt in Kent

Connie reported that highway foreman Rick Osborne said that Kent and most towns in the area use a salt slurry as the most effective method. It is difficult to cut back on salt use.

6C. Sustainable CT Community Match Fund

The fund provides up to a \$25,000 match for qualifying projects to registered communities. About half of Connecticut municipalities are registered so far; Kent is not one of them. Registration is not that difficult, but certification takes a lot of effort, and needs a lead person. It was decided to approach new first selectwoman Jean Speck about this, and to review the Sustainable CT requirements. A grant could help the transfer station. We may also approach Cornwall about their experience.

6D. WCCAA update

Wendy noted that a WCCAA meeting on November 18 will discuss the management of the collected air quality data. A team at UConn will help interpret the data.

6E. Kent Trails Guide

Donna will try to get Kent School interested in buying and distributing some copies. Some may be sold at the Champagne Stroll. Carol will adjust the flyer and put some up in town. The guides are sold for \$15.

6F. Kent information booklet

Connie provided the requested information about the Conservation Commission to Bruce Adams. He will continue working on the booklet, and the Chamber of Commerce is apparently working on its own version.

7. New Business

7A. KCC meeting calendar for 2020

To accommodate Melissa we plan to change our meetings from the second to the third Wednesday of the month. Connie will present a calendar at the next meeting for approval.

7B. Connection to new selectmen

See 6A4 and 6C

7C. Proposed cell tower at Richards Road

This site is an alternative to the Bald Hill Road site proposed earlier. Connie sees this site as more problematic than the Bald Hill Road site, and noted that Kent Land Trust will comment on this proposal. It will go to a town hearing. Upon a motion by Wendy, seconded by Connie, and with Melissa voting no, the commission asked Connie to also write a letter for the commission to the BoS pointing out the conservation values and concerns.

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7D. Resignation

Connie received a message from Rick Levy that he is resigning from the commission. Commissioners greatly appreciate his many years of service on the KCC, as well as in other civil and volunteer functions. Connie will send him a card from the commission. We need to check if someone else has to take his place, and also which commissioners are up for renewal of their term.

8. Correspondence

The Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC) will hold its annual conference on November 23 in Cromwell. Jos will attend. CACIWC newsletters were distributed.

9. Adjourn.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8.22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jos Spelbos  
December 2, 2019

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