



**TOWN OF WESTBROOK
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Mulvey Municipal Center
866 Boston Post Rd.
Westbrook, CT 06498
Tel. 399-3046 – FAX 399-2084

**Westbrook Conservation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada) Virtual Meeting**

Members Present

Marty Marx, Chairman; Chris Bazinet, Molly Bernstein and John Rie

Members Absent

Sheridan Bauman
Randy Bell

Staff Present

Heidi Wallace, Inland Wetlands Agent
Kathleen King, Recording Clerk

Call to Order

M. Marx called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes- April 20, 2021

MOTION: to approve the April 20, 2021 Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes as submitted. **MADE:** by J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by M. Bernstein. **VOTED IN FAVOR:** C. Bazinet, M. Bernstein and J. Rie. **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 3-0-0.

Bills:

MOTION: to approve the April time sheet from Recording Clerk Kathy King for \$125.24. **MADE:** by J. Rie; **SECONDED:** by M. Bernstein; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** C. Bazinet, M. Bernstein and J. Rie; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 3-0-0.

Correspondence:

The following correspondence was received: 4/26/21 Zoning Commission Regular Commission Meeting Minutes, 4/6/21 Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission Regular Meeting Minutes, 5/4/21 Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission Regular Meeting Minutes and April 2021 Inland Wetlands Agent's Report

Chairman's Report:

Open Space Projects:

- **Lake Treatment**

M. Marx will follow up with the company doing the lake treatment, so they can discuss the invoicing.

There will be 2 Lake Laconia (Chapman Mill Pond) treatments: one in June and one in August.

- **Summer Interns**

The summer interns Mark and Zach started today. Zach is a high school student, and Mark is a college student. H. Wallace and M. Marx met with the interns today. H. Wallace made up informational packets for them. They completed a lot of the employment paperwork. M. Marx reviewed with them the location of the Westbrook Open Spaces on the Heritage Open Space Map. He also reviewed with them the work schedule spreadsheet that M. Bernstein created when she was an intern. H. Wallace is taking the interns on a hike Thursday morning to show them some of the trailheads. There will be regular check in meetings with the interns and staff on Thursday afternoons.

- **Open Space Management Plan for spring/summer 2021**

M. Marx will be talking with the interns about the Open Space Management Plan for spring/summer 2021.

- **Horse Hill Gorge**

M. Marx plans to have the interns establish a trail going up to the easement. They will also figure out where to put the parking lot. Hopefully, the parking area will be completed this year. A surveyor will most likely need to be hired especially since the property is an odd shape.

- **Heritage/Open Space Brochure**

There was nothing new to report.

- **Toby Hill VIII Purchase**

H. Wallace said there was a disagreement about how to properly list the abutting properties in the State paperwork. That is being worked out. Things are progressing.

- **Toby Hill Management Plan**

M. Marx is concerned the money allocated for the Toby Hill Management Plan won't be spent this fiscal year because the purchase of Toby Hill VIII has not been completed yet. The property won't be purchased until after the end of this fiscal year. He suggested that the money be used to have Chris Hallahan mow the Tom ODell Open Space, particularly where the phragmites are located. The phragmites are very thick, and it would take the interns weeks to take them down with a weed whacker. Commission members agreed to use some of that money for this purpose. Also, some of the money can be used to pay for the Bob Peterson Memorial Bench.

M. Marx will have more information for the Conservation Commission at their June 15, 2021 meeting.

- **Tom ODell Memorial Open Space – memorial bench for Bob Peterson**

The deposit for the contractor has been submitted. M. Marx will try to get a firm date for bench delivery.

- **Salt Island Management Plan**

M. Marx talked with Kelly Starr from the CT River Coastal Conservation District (CRCCD) about the Salt Island Management Plan. He said they decided to work on the Toby Hill Management Plan first.

- **Open Space Management Fund – request for capital funding for the acquisition of open space**

There is nothing new to report regarding the Open Space Management Fund.

Old Business: There was no Old Business to discuss.

New Business: There was no New Business to discuss.

Reports: Planning, Zoning, Inland Wetlands, Town Center, Preserve Ad Hoc Committee, and Harbor Management Commission

J. Rie said he will not be able to attend the June 15, 2021 Conservation Commission meeting.

<p><u>MOTION:</u> to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. until the next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Westbrook Conservation Commission which will be on Tuesday, June 15, 2021. <u>MADE:</u> by C. Bazinet; <u>SECONDED:</u> by J. Rie; <u>VOTED IN FAVOR:</u> C. Bazinet, M. Bernstein and J. Rie; <u>OPPOSED:</u> None; <u>ABSTAINED:</u> None; <u>APPROVED:</u> 3-0-0.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen King, Recording Clerk