

Sherman Conservation Commission
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 11, 2014
Mallory Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

DRAFT

Members Present: Chair, Bill McCann, Colette Shulman, and Patricia Bailey

Absent: Geoff Gwyther, Joanna Wozniak, and John Foley

Public & Invited: Sue Williams, Angela Parker and Lucille Hinkley

Also Present: Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

Call to Order:

B. McCann Called the Meeting to Order at 7:10 p.m.

Correspondence:

Helen Bray- Resignation as Clerk to the Conservation Commission

Connecticut Federation of Lakes- working with DEEP to develop boat launch safety guidelines.

Habitat- Spring issue

DEEP- forwarded from the Town Clerk in reference to a Notice of Intent to Modify General Permit for Water Resources Construction Activities for Compliance with 2013 Legislative Changes.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Monthly Meeting of February 12, 2014
Regular Monthly Meeting of April 9, 2014
Regular Monthly Meeting of May 14, 2014

The approval of Minutes was tabled to the next Meeting due to the fact there were not enough members present.

General Discussion

Sue Williams, Angela Parker and Lucille Hinkley were invited to sit at the Commission table and discuss their interests regarding the joining the Board. Chairman B. McCann explained the basic responsibilities of the Commission and what is entailed.

New Business

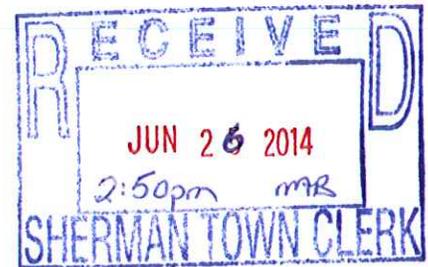
a. Invasives Removal Program

i. Target manageable but highly visible invasive sight(s)

The Commission is actively seeking a problematic location to focus on removal of invasives and use this opportunity to educate the public on the proper ways to remove and dispose of the plants. A location proposed was in the Town Center on Rte 39, at the parking lot. Also discussed was the possibility of getting the Boy Scouts involved.

ii. Weed wrench purchase

Commission member Geoff Gwyther had personally purchased a weed wrench to utilize during Town clean ups and other events involving the Commission. Now that Mr. Qwyther is proposing to step down, he would like to be reimbursed for the purchase and



turn over the tool to the Commission. Mr. McCann agreed to contact Business Administrator, Liz LaVia and see what will be required to request reimbursement.

iii. Offer identifying invasives service

The Commission discussed offering a walk to the Public at the elementary school. There are plenty of examples of invasives present on this location. It was suggested this walk would be most productive in late summer early fall. Also suggested was to write a series of articles to be published in the newspaper for discussion the "top most wanted" invasives, showing a picture, description, and how it should be dealt with. Pat Bailey agreed to write the first of this series.

b. Chair rotation

Acting Chair, B. McCann stated this meeting marks his third month. As the Commission had originally agreed they would rotate on three month intervals. Mr. McCann is seeking a new Commissioner to take over the Chair role. Pat Bailey agreed to take this responsibility for July, August and September.

Old Business

Natural Resources Inventory Report Update

Mr. McCann has reached out to Sam Lamhut and Joe Kenealley, who were active Commission members at the time of the last publication. Additionally he has reached out to the publishing company, New Fairfield Press who said they do not have an active file available on their databases but will continue to look. If these files are not found, the booklet will need to be re-created. Maps will need to be updated which originally came from Northwest Conservation District. Iroquois Pipeline will need to be contacted again to seek grant funding to publish the new edition. A copy of the 2005 edition was provided to all members on this Commission for review and suggestions. This will be ongoing for possible the next year, updated will be discussed at each meeting and tasks will be delegated. The Commission recommended seeking information from the P&Z for their work on the POCD, Historic District Commission, Naromi, Candlewood Lake Authority and Land Acquisition Advisory Board, specifically to see updated maps and other resources involved. The DEEP would be a good place to find any accounts of new species of various birds, plants, insects, and amphibious creatures.

Kestrel Box Update

Pat Bailey reported a stake was placed in the ground at the Farm; however it was either accidentally knocked down or removed. She requested permission from the BoS at the last Meeting, but has not received any feedback to date. It is too late to do anything at this point for this year, but would like to get approval for next year. Kestrel boxes of this type have been very successful and would provide a great teaching opportunity for the community to participate in the banding of the fledglings.

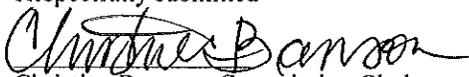
Happy Acres Update

To date, no new update of the RFP have been received.

Adjourn

C. Shulman Adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

June 26, 2014