

**TOWN OF HADDAM  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
7 CANDLEWOOD HILL ROAD, HIGGANUM  
WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH 2016  
APPROVED MINUTES  
*Approved as Submitted at the 25 May 2016 Meeting***

**ATTENDANCE**

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| X | Walter Bragoni, Vice Chairman       |
| A | Ian Gibson                          |
| X | Mardi Hanson-d'Alessandro           |
| X | Gail Reynolds, Chairman             |
| A | Tom Worthley                        |
| X | Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk |
|   |                                     |
|   |                                     |

**1. Call to Order**

Mrs. Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**2. Attendance**

Attendance was taken.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Mardi Hanson moved to approve the 30 March 2016 agenda as submitted. Walter Bragoni second. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Tabled.

**5. Public Comment**

None.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Open Space**

There was nothing new to report at this time.

**b. Budget**

Mrs. Reynolds reported that the Commission has \$1,000 that will need to be spent by the end of June. Mr. Bragoni asked if the funds could be carried over. Mrs. Reynolds stated no.

Mrs. Hanson asked if Manon LeFevre could assist in writing the Conservation Easement Project summary that Lizz Milardo, First Selectman, had requested. Mrs. Reynolds will contact Ms. LeFevre to see if she would be interested.

**MOTION:** Walter Bragoni moved to have Manon LeFevre prepare/submit a summary pertaining to the Conservation Easement Project as long as her request for payment is under \$1,000. Mardi Hanson second. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **c. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) Advisory Committee – Update**

Mrs. Reynolds reported that a subcommittee of three (3) people met to interview those consultants who submitted proposals/qualifications; and at the 16 March 2016 POCD Advisory Committee meeting the subcommittee recommended Horsley Witten. Mrs. Reynolds provided a brief summary of the three (3) applicants' qualifications.

Mrs. Hanson asked if the procedure is still that the various commissions will provide input and then it's coordinated with the committee and the consultant. Mrs. Reynolds stated yes.

#### **d. Emerald Ash Borer – Update**

Mrs. Reynolds reported that the Emerald Ash Borer is in town (aware of this since last summer). Mrs. Reynolds stated that Claire Rutledge, Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, has been monitoring the Emerald Ash Borer and has a program called "Wasp Watchers". Mrs. Reynolds explained how the "Wasp Watcher" Program works and that a digger wasp eats the Emerald Ash Borer.

Mrs. Reynolds had nothing new to report in regard to the tagging of trees pertaining to the Emerald Ash Borer.

#### **e. Salmon River Commission – Update**

Mrs. Reynolds reported that the Salmon River Commission does a lot of water sampling on the Salmon River and its tributaries and one of the trends that they've been noticing is that chloride is going up (unclear why). Mrs. Reynolds stated that the commission will be doing more baseline water quality monitoring this summer and noted that Mr. Gibson had discussed the possibility of conducting water quality testing here in town at the Commission's 24 February 2016 meeting.

Mrs. Reynolds reported that DEEP is surveying lamprey nests and monitoring herring in the Salmon River.

Mrs. Reynolds reported that the town provides funds to the Watershed.

Mrs. Hanson stated that if Mr. Gibson needs funds for water testing kits, perhaps not all the budget funds should be offered to Ms. LeFevre. Mrs. Reynolds will keep this in mind when speaking to Ms. LeFevre.

### **7. New Business**

#### **a. Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCA) Annual Conference - Update**

Mrs. Reynolds reported that she presented a program on technology at the Conference; that Tom Congdon, retired from the Hartford Courant, was the guest speaker; and that the Conference was good.

Mrs. Reynolds reported that the Grange is sponsoring a walk at the Beaver Ledges property and hopes that people will attend. A very nice write up was in the Haddam Bulletin.

## **b. Communications/Publications/Correspondence**

No mail was received.

**1572 Saybrook Road** - Mrs. Reynolds reported that she had received an email from Liz Glidden, Town Planner, pertaining to 1572 Saybrook Road that is zoned commercial. Signage has been placed on the property indicating that multi-family and condos have been approved, which is not the case. The owner or future developer could apply for the Housing Opportunity District through Planning and Zoning, but has not done so. If an application is received, a public hearing(s) would be held.

Mrs. Hanson asked if the water for this site would be part of the contamination plume. Mrs. Reynolds stated that she doesn't believe the plume has crossed Bridge Road.

## **8. Land Use Dept. Report**

There was nothing new to report.

## **10. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Walter Bragoni moved to adjourn. Mardi Hanson second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bunny Hall Batzner*

Bunny Hall Batzner  
Recording Clerk

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 30 March 2016.**