

**TOWN OF HADDAM  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING  
UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM  
30 FIELD PARK DRIVE, HADDAM, CT 06438  
WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2022  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

**ATTENDANCE**

A	Mardi Hanson-d'Alessandro
X	Gail Reynolds, Chairman
X	Tom Worthley
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

**DUE TO A DOUBLE BOOKING OF THE TOWN HALL, THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION HAD TO RELOCATE TO THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING, UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM.**

**1. Call to Order**

Mrs. Reynolds, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

**2. Attendance**

Attendance was taken.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Tom Worthley motioned to approve the 26 October 2022 agenda as submitted. Gail Reynolds second. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Gail Reynolds motioned to approve the 28 September 2022 minutes as submitted. Tom Worthley second. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Public Comments**

There was no one from the public present.

**6. Old Business**

**a) Higganum Center Trails/Walking Path**

There was nothing new to report.

**b) Open Space**

Mrs. Reynolds reported the Haddam Land Trust (HLT) was the sole bidder at the tax sale of a 10 acre parcel on Route 154 in Tylerville. The HLT will have to wait six (6) months before the sale is final.

Mrs. Reynolds also reported the HLT has been contacted regarding the donation of a 20 acre parcel on Chamberlain Hill Road. Bill Cowan, President, and Cindy Sullivan, Board of Director, of the HLT have reviewed the site.

### **c) Budget**

Mrs. Reynolds reported she had received emails pertaining to the 2023-2024 budget and the 2021-2022 Annual Town Report. Mrs. Reynolds also reported the Commission has funding in the current fiscal year's budget. Mrs. Reynolds stated she felt the Commission wasn't able to accomplish very much this past year.

Mr. Worthley stated in terms of accomplishing things he has heard state and federal people talking about climate funds, infrastructure funds, and Inflation Reduction Act funds coming down the pipeline. Mr. Worthley also stated if someone could sort out and figure out what the time lines are and who the entities are that are eligible for various the funds, there's an opportunity to do a project.

Mrs. Reynolds spoke in regard to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and how the Chester Land Trust and the Town of Chester are working together to obtain funds. Discussion followed in regard to there being so much that could be done, but people need to found who will commit to doing the work. Also discussed was the hiring of interns; however, a number of other agencies are competing to hire the same people for summer internships and seasonal people. Mr. Worthley stated the labor market will be competitive.

Mr. Worthley stated he attended the Connecticut Urban Forest Council Conference and Forest Forum today and Katie Scharf Dykes, DEEP Commission, spoke about a number of funding streams. Mr. Worthley stated the program was good and the meeting came off very well.

### **d) POCD**

There was nothing new to report.

### **e) Native Plant Ordinance – Review Draft Language – Update**

There was nothing new to report.

### **f) Swan Hill – Management Plan – Student Fellow - Update**

Mr. Worthley reported he started to work on the plan again, but has nothing new to report.

## **7. New Business**

### **a) Communications/Publications/Correspondence**

Mrs. Reynolds reviewed a letter from the Connecticut Audubon Society asking the Commission to become a member and an email regarding the 2022 Virtual Invasive Plant Symposium on Thursday, 3 November 2022 (for more information: [ciwg.uconn.edu/2022-symposium](https://ciwg.uconn.edu/2022-symposium)). Mrs. Reynolds stated she will be attending the symposium.

### **b) REMINDER - Connecticut Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions (CACIWC) - 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference, Saturday, 29 October 2022**

The Commission will not be attending.

## **8. Announcements**

**a) Grim's Haunted House** - Friday-Sunday, 28-30 October 2022, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Community Center, 7 Candlewood Hill Road – Informational purposes only.

**b) Fall Festival** – Saturday, 29 October 2022 – Community Center and Higganum Green -**Tractor Parade** – 10:30 a.m., Starts at St. Peter's Church Parking Lot, 30 St. Peter's Lane; **RockLanding Band** -

Concert at the Gazebo, 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.; **Kids' Fair** – 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; **Trunk or Treat** – 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – Informational purposes only.

**c) Pumpkin Run** - Sunday, 30 October 2022, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Haddam-Killingworth High School, 95 Little City Road – Informational purposes only. Mrs. Reynolds stated she plans on participating. Go, Gail!

**d) Public Hearing** – Wednesday, 2 November 2022 – Rossi Property – Haddam Vol. Fire Co. station #1, 439 Saybrook Road – Informational purposes only. Hearing begins at 6:30 p.m.

**e) Town Meeting** - Wednesday, 9 November 2022 – Rossi Property – Haddam Vol. Fire Co. station #1, 439 Saybrook Road – Informational purposes only. Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mrs. Batzner reported on the following: **P&Z** – On Thursday, 20 October 2022, Mr. Warner gave a presentation on the purchase/lease of the Rossi property and the CGS 8-24 Report pertaining to this matter was approved. The Board of Selectmen (BOS) and the Board of Finance (BOF) also heard this presentation earlier. A hearing for a site plan review to allow for a 10,000 square foot retail building on Killingworth Road, Map 60, Lot 26-7, adjacent to 968 Killingworth Road, Applicant: MPA Realty Associates was continued until Thursday, 3 November 2022. A hearing will be held regarding an amendment to Zoning Regulations Section 10.4 – Forestry Regulations on Thursday, 15 December 2022. There was informal discussion regarding 212 Saybrook Road. **Wetlands** – Approve a site plan review of associated earthwork to allow for a 10,000 square foot retail building Killingworth Road, Map 60/Lot 26-7, adjacent to 968 Killingworth Road. Applicant: MPA Realty Associates, on Monday, 17 October 2022. **ZBA** – Approve a request for a front yard variance to Section 4 and Table 1 of the Zoning Code to authorize the construction of a detached garage to be within 10 feet when 30 feet is required at 493 Little City Road, Higganum, Map 56 / Lot 17-7. Applicant: William Vinopal, on 29 September 2022. Their October meeting has been cancelled. **EDC** – Due to the Town Meeting being held on EDC's regular meeting night, they will be conducting their meeting on Wednesday, 16 November 2022, 6:30 p.m., Community Center, 7 Candlewood Hill Road.

## **9. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Tom Worthley motioned to adjourn. Gail Reynolds second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Bunny Hall Batzner*  
Bunny Hall Batzner  
Recording Clerk

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 30 November 2022,  
at the Community Center, 7 Candlewood Hill Road, Higganum, CT.**