



GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes - February 1, 2023 Special Meeting

This meeting was recorded via Zoom.US and is available as a recording on the Goshen website.

Access was by ZOOM meeting by computer at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82396328275>

Access conference call meeting by phone at 1-929-205-6099

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Iain Kinsella called the February 1, 2023, special meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present at Goshen Town Hall Conference Room: Paul Gallo

Present on ZOOM: Cindy Barrett, Iain Kinsella, Jason Masi, and Sue Rinaldi. Excused: Laura Saucier-Krukar

APPROVAL of MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 4, 2023, special meeting were emailed for review. Paul Gallo made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Sue Rinaldi. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Paul Gallo noted that the following were received:

- Memo from First Selectman, Todd Carusillo, regarding a reminder to please follow proper procedure when shutting down the computer equipment after a Zoom meeting in order for the equipment to shut down correctly.
- The July/August 2022 issue of the Connecticut Wildlife magazine and it is available to members and will be left in the mailbox to share.

Iain Kinsella reported that he received a resignation from member, Jeff Damiano, and Iain noted that the Commission will be looking to appoint another member. Equal representation of political affiliation will be taken into consideration as usual, and he asked if anyone has a person in mind to notify him or Board of Selectmen.

OLD BUSINESS:

Torrington Water Company fishing by permit at reservoir: Iain reported that he did reach out to his contact from Aquarion Water Company, specifically, to the Director - Sustainability & Environmental Management, via email. Iain will forward email to members. They are aware of the current permit hiking system in Goshen and have no plans to change anything. Over the next year, they will be accessing the new lands they have acquired in regard to recreational use and improvements. Iain will check on any formal agreement that the town had with the Torrington Water Company. He will contact former First Selectman, Bob Valentine, and Andy Nygren, former Conservation Commission Chairman. Aquarion also has some ability to assist with trail maintenance if the need arises.

Trail maintenance reports: Iain asked for trail updates and Sue Rinaldi reported that she has been actively hiking the trails and has been out on Kobylenski Trail, John Ross Trail, and East Street North Trail. She reported that the East Street North Trails had blowdowns of many limbs and downed trees down on the trails. She did maintenance of removal, did some re-routing on the south loop due to a large tree down, and noted that re-blazing needs to be done. The south loop is also extremely wet in certain areas. She noted that the lock on the north trailhead gate of the Hart Trail was not locked. Iain will look into it. A plan will be made via email to arrange to do blazing either with paint or official trail markers which Paul has.



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Paul reported that he placed a game cam on the Town Hill Road gate of Camp Coch for dumping surveillance as 2 dumping episodes were reported to First Selectman of meats.

Paul noted that it is time during February or March to check and clean out the duck boxes on East Street North pond and replace the wood shavings for the coming season. At present, he noted that the ice is not safe but plans will be made to do this when it is safe on foot to reach the boxes.

Bantam Lake watershed project status: Iain reported that there was nothing updated on their website. He noted that this is a long term project. He received no notifications.

East Street North trail grant discussion: Iain reported that Joyce Mowrey has been drafting the grant submission and has asked that the GCC write a letter in support of it. He reported that Joyce has gathered letters of support from State Representative Maria Horn, Congresswoman Jahana Hayes, and the Goshen Board of Selectman. Iain will draft the letter, will circulate to members for review, and submit it. Scott Olsen is writing a letter of support from the Goshen Economic Development Committee.

Goshen Town Topics future articles:

1. Iain received notification from Virginia Perry, First Selectman's Admin. Asst., that the deadline for articles is 2/20/23 for the Goshen Town Topics mailing date of 3/10/2023.
2. Bobcat article - Paul Gallo noted the article is ready for submission.
3. Energy article - Jason Masi is working on an article on the relevant, current energy challenges in CT. Jason will share an article from CTMirror that he found very interesting.

Goshen Town Hall Walkway beds Maintenance:

Iain reported that he did contact First Selectman, Todd Carusillo, and Todd emailed Public Works Supervisor, Garret Harlow, regarding the weed guard. It will be taken care of by Garret. The walkway boxwood planting will need to be trimmed this year as well into a hedge.

Budget for 2023: Iain submitted the budget with no change from last year. He thanked all members of the commission and townspeople for their efforts as volunteers.

Agenda for March 1 meeting was reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Gallo, seconded by Suzanne Rinaldi, at 7:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Barrett".

Cynthia Barrett, Secretary - **GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Received Feb 3 2023 10:16 A M

Attest A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to the Assistant Goshen Town Clerk.
Asst. Goshen Town Clerk