



GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes - June 5, 2024, Meeting - Goshen Town Hall Conference Room and Zoom

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman, Iain Kinsella, called the June 5, 2024, meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present at Goshen Town Hall Conference Room: Iain Kinsella-Chair, Paul Gallo-Vice Chair and Laura Saucier.

Present on ZOOM: Cindy Barrett, Annette Lott, and Sue Rinaldi. Excused: Jason Masi

APPROVAL of MINUTES: The minutes of the May 1, 2024, meeting were emailed for review. Paul Gallo made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Annette Lott. The motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence received in the mailbox was an issue of the Connecticut Wildlife magazine (November/December 2022) and a letter from Aquarion Water Company regarding the 14th Annual Aquarion Environmental Champion Awards which offers the chance to celebrate individuals, businesses, and organizations in Connecticut who are dedicated to environmental protection and sustainability with grants. Deadline was May 3.

OLD BUSINESS:

Torrington Water Company fishing by permit at reservoir: Iain reported that he believes that Aquarion Water Company is for sale. It is owned by Eversource and Torrington Water Company is an entity within Aquarion.

Trail maintenance reports: Iain reported that Joe Welsh, resident, had no report for this month for Town Hill Trail. Paul reported that the parking sign at the East Street North Trail was down. He has stained it, painted the recessed letters and will reinstall it. He will check other signs to refresh them as well. Iain completed the new QR Code for the Trail signs and Goshen Town website. He now has control of it for any future changes that need to be made.

Bantam Lake watershed project status: No emails received or updates on their website to report at this meeting. Laura reported that she has not received anything as well.

East Street North trail grant discussion: Iain reported that money was awarded to the grant submission but that none was allocated to the East Street North trail. The Goshen Land Trust and Goshen Recreation Department were awarded approximately \$89,000. DEEP felt the bridges would be eligible for DOT grants and suggested we leave them out of the submission. In talking to various DOT representatives it does not seem the case that the bridges qualify because they are not multimodal or ADA accessible.



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Page 2 - Joyce Mowrey, Goshen Land Trust, has reached out to check on taking the bridge repair out of next submission and will report.

Goshen Town Topics future articles: The date for the next article submission is August 19, 2024. Paul is still interested in writing an article on Fischer Project. Future articles will be worked on by the members to have two articles ready.

Bat Nursery Box Project: Paul reported that the box is built, painted and all ready to be installed as soon as possible. Paul will reach out to arrange installation with members.

Goshen Open Space Plan 2025: The following was discussed:

1. Iain did contact Andy Nygren, former Chairman of the Conservation Commission, with some questions and replies were received. Iain will report at the August meeting.
2. Iain reported that Jason Masi forwarded some questions as well.
3. Laura asked for clarification of the relationship of the **Open Space Plan** to the **Plan of Conservation and Development**. The Open Space Plan is a part of the Plan of Conservation and Development. Cindy reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission has begun reading the POCD. Discussion was had. Additions and subtractions to the plan will be discussed. The metrics will be updated.
4. Iain reviewed his desired approach as he did at the May meeting, expectations to research and educate members, and members were asked to make lists of items to address as there is plenty of time before it needs to be submitted. Discussion was had.
5. Members were asked to read the Open Space Plan and the Plan of Conservation and Development for discussion at the August meeting.

New Business: Cindy reported that common horsetail weed is in need of being weeded out of the front Town Hall beds. The pollinator garden will be planted. Agenda for next month was reviewed and Trail Grant and Bat Box will be removed.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Sue Rinaldi, seconded by Paul Gallo, at 7:13 pm. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia A. Barrett
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Received June 7, 2024 11:59AM
Attest *[Signature]*
asst. Goshen Town Clerk