



**TOWN OF WINCHESTER  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Town Hall, 338 Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – Lee Ann LaClaire Room**

**September 8, 2022 – 5:00PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Amanda Hill called the meeting to order at 5:05PM.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

The following individuals were present: Jen Perga (5:11PM), Leann Marvin, Willard Platt, and Renata Waldron. Additionally, staff member Mike Stankov was present.

John Wiarda was absent.

The agenda was modified to include the approval of the July 14, 2022 Minutes and August 16, 2022 Minutes under *Approval of Minutes* and to postpone the approval of the August 11, 2022 Minutes. It was also amended to take up *Approval of 2023 Meeting Schedule* ahead of *Winchester Land Trust Acquisition of the 25-Acre Cannavo Spring Watershed Pratt Street Property*.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Ms. Waldron, Ms. Hill second, to approve the July 14, 2022 Minutes; unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** Ms. Hill, Ms. Waldron second, to approve the August 16, 2022 Minutes as amended; unanimously approved.

**4. RIVER CLEANUP – SEPTEMBER 24, 2022:**

Ms. Marvin updated the commission on the scheduled river cleanup function, reporting Kent Pizza as having donated a gift of pizza. She noted that Farmington River Watershed Association had provided a map with known littered areas, a product of that group's water-sampling study. Ms. Marvin remarked on how pleased FRWA Education and Outreach Manager Heather Geist was with this planned event, noting that the Mad River was a feeding tributary to the Farmington River. Ms. Marvin reminded commissioners that she had forwarded the map of the planned clean-up areas on August 31<sup>st</sup>. She confirmed that the Northwest Conservation District is going to assist in advertising the event. Ms. Waldron reported that the group can count on donations of pizza from ABC. She noted that she had stopped by McGranes on the Green but had not heard back yet. Ms. Perga noted that Monaco's and Nollis have donated in the past. Ms. Marvin noted that Little Red Barn Brewery was donating the reusable bags, too. Ms. Hill suggested that a list of business sponsors should be compiled and promoted. Mr. Stankov noted that the list could be added to the Town's website. Ms. Hill noted that the event had already been added to Facebook. Ms. Perga noted that it had been in the Republican American. Ms. Hill suggested a submittal to the newspaper as a follow-up to thank the sponsors. Ms. Perga noted that a letter to the editor can typically handle that. Ms. Hill noted that Birchwater Property Management made a donation of water for the event and her employer, Bombardier, was willing to donate four boxes of gloves. Ms. Marvin reported that FRWA was willing to also donate bags.

Ms. Perga confirmed that the Department of Public Works will provide a truck for the trash that is recovered from the river cleanup.

The consensus of the commission was to meet at East End Park at 9AM. Ms. Perga suggested donning a reflective vest so that volunteers recognize commissioners on the day of the event.

## **5. APPROVAL OF 2023 MEETING SCHEDULE:**

The commission reviewed a draft of dates for regular meetings including the following:

- October 13, 2022
- November 10, 2022
- December 8, 2022
- January 12, 2023
- February 9, 2023
- March 9, 2023
- April 13, 2023
- May 11, 2023
- June 8, 2023
- July 13, 2023
- August 10, 2023

**MOTION:** Ms. Waldron, Mr. Platt second, to approve the schedule as drafted but for the change to the November meeting, changing it from November 10<sup>th</sup> to November 17<sup>th</sup>; unanimously approved.

Ms. Marvin exited the meeting at 5:26PM.

## **6. WINCHESTER LAND TRUST ACQUISITION OF THE 25-ACRE CANNAVO SPRING WATERSHED PRATT STREET PROPERTY:**

Ms. Perga discussed a plan for Winchester Land Trust to acquire the 25-acre parcel opposite Resha Beach, extending behind the apartments and local spring. She noted that there would be a trail head on the road opposite Bachellor School.

Ms. Perga explained that Winchester Land Trust was a non-profit that received no funding from the Town, noting that all holdings are achieved through grants and donations. She indicated that while it was not very developable, one to two lots might be achieved if it wasn't preserved.

A draft of a letter of support from this commission for the grant application was reviewed and discussed. As only

**MOTION:** Ms. Waldron, Ms. Hill second, to write a letter of support for the Winchester Land Trust grant application for the acquisition of the Cannavo spring property; Motion passed with Ms. Hill, Ms. Waldron, and Mr. Platt voting in favor while Ms. Perga abstained.

## **7. ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Ms. Waldron, Ms. Hill second, to adjourn at 5:36PM; unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Pamela A. Colombie**  
**Recording Clerk**