

Plainfield Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: 7-19-2021

Members Present: Wally Cwynar, Mark Doyle, Sylvia Wielk, Nick Anderson

Alternate Member: Adrian Paulsen

Members Absent: Matt Yanuskiewicz

Call to Order: W. Cwynar called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Additions and / or Corrections to the Agenda

W. Cwynar mentioned Katharine O'Neil was appointed the new Planing and Zoning Clerk.
Change header Open Space Survey to Open Space Project.

Appoint Alternate Members

None

Approval of 6-21-21 meeting meeting minutes

W. Cwynar made a motion to approve the 7-19-2021 minutes, seconded by S. Wielk.

Moosup Valley Bike Trail

Still waiting for VHB to provide an outline of the plans and updated details of progress made so far.

Commission received a map outlining the new plans for the Quinebaug River Trail – East Coast Greenway Portion, that is planned for the section from Wauregan to Central Village. The commission will continue to follow the progress of this important link to the bike/walking trail.

American Chestnut Foundation

W. Cwynar mentioned he has been unable to check on the Plainfield Forest Management Preserve. There is still a need to accomplish this task and it is on the list.

Open Space Project / Survey

A Paulson created a presentation outlining the benefits of acquiring open space. S. Weilk mentioned to include other towns that have acquired open space and include how they used it. A discussion on an outline showing how open space funding works and the positive effects it will have on the town. Plainfield has a dedicated Open Space fund from which the 2 properties will be purchased. The presentation is planned for the required town meeting that will be held to make public the plan for this acquisition. Appraisals were completed, town has made the offer for the properties and it was accepted. Board of Selectmen now has to approve and schedule a town meeting. W. Cwynar presented some aerial shots of the available Open Space parcel on Kate Downing Road, provided by The Selectman's office. A drone was made available to record the information by a local citizen. A previous plan to utilize the Police department drone could not happen due to it is being repaired at this time. W. Cwynar and S. Wielk mentioned the new

land donation of 47 acres in Norwich that was just finalized with The Avalonia Land Conservancy. It will be named "The Cedarwood Preserve", in honor of Polaski Family, and farm name, that donated the land, located on North Wawecus Hill Road in Norwich. It will also highlight the dense sections of Eastern red cedar trees on the property.

Other Business

N. Anderson mentioned proposing to the town to make a recommendation the Amazon distribution center include solar roofs to contribute to the grid.

Citizen Participation: None

Meeting Adjourned: W.Cwynar made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm, seconded by S. Wielk

Next Meeting: Monday August 16th, 2021

Respectfully by: Walter Cwynar Chairman