

On AUG 26 2021 at 10:12 AM

Attest: Barbi J. Gardiner

Barbi J. Gardiner, Town Clerk

Plainfield Conservation Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: 8-16-2021

Members Present: Walter Cwynar, Sylvia Wielk, Mark Doyle, Adrian Paulsen, Susan Hall.

Members Absent: Nick Anderson, Mathew Yanuskiewicz

Guest: Joann Desrochers

Call to Order: W. Cwynar called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Additions and / or Corrections to the Agenda

New Member:

S. Hall has been appointed as a full member of the Conservation Commission. Sue was a previous member, and is welcomed back to serve.

Open Space Land Acquisition: Change to: Open space Project.

Appoint Alternate Members

None

Approval of 7-19-21 meeting minutes

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

Moosup Valley Bike Trail

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Parks/Moosup-Valley-State-Park-Trail/Overview>

<https://marjorieturner.com/2018/08/28/trestle-trail-coventry-ri/>

W. Cwynar mentioned he will reach out to VHB for more information.

<https://www.norwichbulletin.com/story/news/local/2021/06/16/new-plainfield-trail-supported-2-1-million-federal-funds/7682071002/>

S. Hall mentioned updating the Greenway Trail signs that runs through town.

<https://www.greenway.org>

American Chestnut Foundation

W. Cwynar mentioned he has been unable to check on the Plainfield Forest Management Area. He also stated that upcoming month of September is good time to search for any chestnuts that might be on the tree that has been producing for the last two years, and the plan is to get out there during that time.

M. Doyle mentioned scoping out the new Open Space property for American Chestnut trees for conservation purposes.

Open Space Project

W. Cwynar Thanked Adrian Paulsen for outstanding work he accomplished putting together a power point presentation for the Special Town Meeting that was held on Wednesday August 11th. The agenda was to approve spending open space funds to acquire 2 parcels of land on Kate Downing Road that would create access to 139.2 acres of land that is currently land locked and Town owned. Adrian hosted the power point which highlighted the details the acquisitions, and also the results from the open space survey that solidified support from Plainfield residents. W. Cwynar also spoke on behalf of the commission during that meeting. K. Cunningham moderated the meeting and a motion was made for a vote to approve the spending. The motion overwhelmingly passed.

W. Cwynar mentioned there will be about ~\$300,000 left in the open space fund, after the 2 new land acquisitions, that were recently approved, are finalized.

S. Hall mentioned it would be good to get an annual statement on the open space account.

S. Weilk mentioned there may be a grant available to fund some of the progress on the the Open Space Project. S. Weilk mentioned it would be good to check in to see the progress on the project for the next meeting. S. Weilk mentioned the open space is protected by the Deep and mentioned we should reach out them to find out what kind of funding is available to develop the property for public access. A. Paulson mentioned it would be nice to create an open field next to the parking lot near the property and also suggested giving the space a name.

Other Business

W. Cwynar mentioned he submitted the Walktober form for October 2nd. Calendars will be out in early September. The Commission will be planning on some trail maintenance and preparation for the event, in September.

Citizen Participation: None

Meeting Adjourned: S.Hall made a motion to adjourn at 8:10pm, seconded by A. Paulson.

Next Meeting: Monday September 20th, 2021

Respectfully by: Walter Cwynar Chairman

Walter F. Cwynar 8-26-2021