

Town Of Thompson
Conservation Commission
815 Riverside Drive, PO Box 899
North Grosvenordale, Connecticut 06255

MINUTES: APRIL 18, 2016

TOWN HALL 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

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Chairman Phil Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Members present: Phil Thomas, Norma O'Leary, Ron Tillen, Kathy Mitchell and Bernie Davis.

Staff present: Audrey Witkowski and Carolyn Werge.

Guests present: Hap Coman and Steve Hebert.

Approval of Minutes

1. **Bernie Davis moved and Ron Tillen seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting as presented; the motion carried.**

Financial Matters

1. As of March 31th, 71% of the budget has been used.

Correspondence

- a. Members received via email:
 - 1) Minutes: Conservation Commission, March 21, 2016.
 - 2) The minutes from the Wyndham County Conservation Consortium, 30 March 2016.
- b. Incoming Mail:
 - 1) The Aquarion Water Company sent a reminder for nominations for their Aquarion Environmental Champion Awards, 8 April 2016.
- c. Outgoing Mail: None.
- d. Incoming Mail via email:
 - 1) Brian Jones, the CT State Archaeologist, replied to Carolyn Werge regarding the two possible cemetery sites in Thompson, 28 March 2016.
- e. Outgoing Mail via email: None.

Officer and Committee Reports

1. Conservation Officer Report
 - a. New Requests: None.
 - b. Old Requests: None.
 - c. Updates:
 - 1) Cemeteries Updates:
 - i. Carolyn Werge emailed the CT State Archaeologist, Brian Jones, regarding his opinion of the two possible cemetery sites in Thompson. His recommendation was to manage the sites as cemeteries and research in the historical resources for background information. If the research is unsuccessful, Mr. Jones is willing to schedule a site visit. He also included Ruthie Brown of the CT Gravestone Network for her insight.
 - ii. Carolyn Werge visited three cemeteries that Norma O'Leary had trimmed last fall. She felt the pictures she took were not good enough to posting will return later in the season to take more pictures. Quaddick Cemetery needs additional clean up after the wind storms.
 - 2) The discrepancy in the Wyndham Land Trust's Tamler Preserve acreage has been resolved by the assessor. The most recent acquisition from the Tamler family measures 131.95 acres.
 - 3) The Windham County Conservation Consortium held their quarterly meeting March 30, 2016. Julianna Barrett gave a presentation and list of resources on rare habitats and species in CT.
 - 4) Carolyn Werge has been working with the Wyndham Land Trust on locating documents to assist them in their preservation efforts in Thompson. Carolyn Werge does this as a volunteer when working outside of Thompson.
2. Other

Old Business

1. Update on previous Conservation reviews: No update.
2. Blue Bird houses: All but two of the blue bird houses were picked up.
3. Fabyan Property with "Honor Roll" marker: No update.

New Business

Citizens' Comments

1. Steve Hebert commented on the work the Commission does for the town cemeteries. He discussed the fund in the public works department that was recently reduced by the Board of Selectmen as it had not been used in previous years. The Commission informed Mr. Hebert to the Commission's website for additional information of cemetery care.

Members' Forum

1. Kathy Mitchell received the Visit CT magazine in the mail and noticed the eastern part of the state had been labeled as Mystic Country even though Windham County is considered the Quiet Corner. Norma O'Leary said this was the state's decision.
2. Ron Tillen brought up the "No New Power Plant" sign that is currently on the Common and asked if it should concern the Commission. The power plant is going in Burrillville, RI and guest Steve Hebert said it was a big question mark on how it would affect Thompson.
3. Norma O'Leary reported on the town wide clean up. All the phone calls for volunteers have gone out and citizens are calling and asking to be included. She currently has around 200 volunteers.

Announcements

Future Meeting

1. The next meeting will be held Monday, May 16, 2016 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Adjournment

1. Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:44 PM.

Audrey Witkowski
Recording Secretary