

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

MINUTES—REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019, 7:00 PM  
TOWN HALL 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

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

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

Staff present: Audrey Witkowski and Carolyn Werge.

*Approval of Minutes*

1. **Norma O'Leary moved and Bernie Davis seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the December 17, 2018 meeting as presented. All in favor. The motion carried.**

*Financial Matters*

1. 53.1% of the budget has been used.

*Correspondence*

- a. Members received via email:
  - 1) Minutes: Conservation Commission, December 17, 2018.
- b. Incoming Mail: None.
- c. Outgoing Mail:
  - 1) The updated Conservation Easement Agreement for the Shield's property, dated 23 January 2019.
- d. Incoming Mail via email: None.
- 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) The Conservation Easement for the Shields subdivision on Fabyan Road is now complete. Carolyn Werge reviewed it and then submitted it to the Town Clerk.
    - 2) Peter Cummins term expires March 15, 2019. Carolyn Werge has prepared a letter to the First Selectman requesting Peter Cummins be reappointed.
    - 3) The Wyndham Land Trust has acquired two more parcels. The Orr land on Hill Road is 94 acres in Thompson and 58 acres in Putnam and expands the Lower Pond Reserve. The Joyal land on Ravenelle Road is 19 acres and expands the Bull Hill Preserve. Carolyn Werge has updated the maps to include the new acquisitions. Bernie Davis suggested placing wildlife crossing signs in the area of the Ravenelle Road property.
    - 4) The town launched its new website in January. The commission discussed if it would be beneficial to use the town web page over the conservation web page.
    - 5) The state has provided the instructions on applying for reimbursement for the Neglected Cemetery Grant.
    - 6) Carolyn Werge spoke with the First Selectman regarding the maintenance of the open space on Lillian Avenue. The DPW will take care of the yearly maintenance.
    - 7) The budget for the next fiscal year has been submitted with no changes from last year.
    - 8) The color printer in the conservation office will need to be replaced soon. The funds were encumbered two years ago.
    - 9) Carolyn Werge and Norma O'Leary attended a presentation by the Economic Development Commission and the Branding Committee for their work on creating a brand for Thompson. They may make changes to the towns zoning regulations to complete their plans.
2. Other

*Old Business*

1. Update on previous Conservation reviews: No update.

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2. Blue Bird houses:
  - a. Bernie Davis has completed 51 blue bird houses and suggested offering them to the department boards and commissions first. Bernie Davis also provided Carolyn Werge with the blueprints for the boxes for future reference.
3. Fabyan Property with "Honor Roll" marker:
  - a. Phil Thomas has tried to contact the homeowner several times regarding the marker. The marker does have a light on it at night.
4. Groundwater protection:
  - a. The Commission discussed the Aquifer Protection regulations being removed by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The aquifer delineated for the public water supply is required to be regulated. Carolyn Werge will compose a letter to the Planning and Zoning Commission requesting they reinstate the protection of the three primary aquifers in town.

#### *New Business*

1. Election of Officers
  - a. **Bernie Davis moved and Ron Tillen seconded the motion to maintain the officers as they are. All in favor. The motion carried.**

#### *Citizens' Comments*

#### *Members' Forum*

1. Phil Thomas provided a pamphlet from Charlton, MA regarding taking care of the water supply. There is still flooding in the area of Route 131. Carolyn Werge will look into it and also check with Marla Butts.
2. Ron Tillen attended a walk with the Wyndham Land Trust and Historical Society looking at cairns in the area. Bernie Davis suggested they document the locations with GPS.

#### *Announcements*

#### *Future Meeting*

1. The next meeting will be held Monday, March 18, 2019 at 7 PM in the Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.

#### *Adjournment*

1. Chairman Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:56PM.

Audrey Witkowski  
Recording Secretary