



TOWN OF THOMPSON Conservation Commission

MINUTES—REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 7:00 PM
HYBRID MEETING VIA ZOOM PLATFORM

- 1) Meeting Called to Order by Vice Chairman Norma O’Leary at 7:00 PM.

Present: Norma O’Leary, Carol Smith, Judy Rondeau, Peter Cummins & Bernie Davis (via ZOOM)

Staff: Dan Malo (Conservation Agent)

Guests: None

- 2) Approval of Minutes

Members received the August 16, 2021 meeting minutes via email:

Bernie Davis moved and Judy Rondeau seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2021 meeting as presented. All in favor. The motion carried.

- 3) Financial Matters—No updates

- 4) Correspondence

Members received via email:

- Minutes: Conservation Commission, August 16, 2021
- The PZC’s Plan of Conservation & Development updates
- Memorandum of Understanding for Air Line turntable project
- Resignation Letter from Recording Secretary, Audrey Witkowski

Incoming Mail:

- ArcNews Summer 2021 Newsletter
- Uline Product Catalog
- Esri News Winter 2021 Newsletter
- ArcUser Summer 2021 Magazine
- TLGV Walktober 2021 Guide
- Connecticut Wildlife Magazine, May/June & July/August editions

Outgoing Mail: None sent

Incoming Mail via email:

- UCONN Native plants and Pollinators Conference invitation
- Connecticut Land Conservation Council & Land Trust Alliance— Risk Management Initiative
- Connecticut Land Conservation Council – “What is a Land Trust”
- Inquiry from Realtor Lisa Perry about PA490 forest designation

Outgoing Mail via email:

- Response to Inquiry from Realtor Lisa Perry

Bernie Davis and Judy Rondeau clarified the meaning of ‘PA490 forest designation’ for members. Members requested hard-copies of the Habitat Newsletter when they become available.

- 5) Officer and Committee Reports

- a. New Requests: None.
- b. Old Requests: None.
- c. Updates:

Dan Malo discussed his work with the Planner and Historical Society to draft a memorandum of understanding with property owners regarding the placement of stones for the reconstruction of the train turntable at Air Line Trail State Park.

6) Old Business

- a. Update on previous Conservation reviews: No update.
- b. Blue Bird houses: Dan Malo proposed follow-up with 2019 recipients of the Blue Bird houses.

Almost all recipients of that year have yet to provide photo verification of installation. Bernie Davis still has 20-30 bluebird houses available from the last push in 2019. Norma O'Leary asked for a word-of-mouth marketing effort with town commissions. Dan Malo noted that many email contacts of recipients have been retained through past efforts. Bernie Davis stated that this type of bird house works best in pairs, 15-20 feet apart.

- c. Fabyan Property with "Honor Roll" marker: Norma O'Leary requested that Dan Malo follow-up with Phil Thomas about preservation of the marker, which is located on private property.

7) New Business—None received

8) Citizens' Comments—None received

9) Members Forum

- Judy Rondeau stated that a review of Conservation Easement properties is overdue.
- Judy Rondeau met with the Board of Directors of The Stewards of the French River. The organization has formed into a non-profit organization and hopes to conduct more stewardship projects. Members suggested water sampling.
- Judy Rondeau updated members about 'Impaired Waters' and informed the Commission that the French River was not classified as an impaired water.
- Judy Rondeau would like the Town to conduct a "Healthy Water Plan."
- Norma O'Leary asked for an update on MS4 compliance. Dan Malo said he would speak to the Wetlands Agent, Town Planner, Public Works Director, and First Selectman.
- Norma O'Leary asked Dan Malo to look into any available grants for cemetery projects.
- Dan Malo updated members that the 'Fish Sculpture' application presented by the Town was tabled by the Inland Wetlands Commission, who requested more information.

10) Announcements

- Resignation of Recording Secretary, Audrey Witkowski.
- Temporary Wetlands Agent appointment of Dan Malo by Inland Wetlands Commission for enforcement matters only during absence of Marla Butts.

11) Future Meeting

Will be held Monday, October 18, 2021, at 7 PM as a hybrid meeting in-person and on ZOOM.

12) Adjournment

After completion of the agenda, Vice-Chair Norma O'Leary adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted, Dan Malo



To see/hear the entire meeting via ZOOM, click here to copy and paste into your search bar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/UvcyWSihFu0ONibvH7xy4C-ZRYlg2z8llguNDxjoVRw-Z2JIPdS-sUrU3EmiWu.7nvjQWfPLqBHtHzg>

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