



TOWN OF THOMPSON

Conservation
Commission

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Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2022

2nd Floor Conference Room at the THOMPSON TOWN HALL Hybrid meeting via ZOOM:

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Judith Rondeau at 7:08 PM.

Present: Judith Rondeau (Chair), Norma O'Leary, Dave Clark, Peter Cummins, Sue Wheeler.

Staff: Dan Malo (Conservation Agent), Heather Gauthier (Recording Secretary)

Guests:

2. Approval of Minutes - December 19, 2022

Norma O'Leary moved to approve the minutes as presented, Peter Cummins seconded the motion to accept the minutes from the December 19th regular meeting. The motion approved 5-0-0.

3. Financial Matters

We have used 51.2% of our yearly budget.

4. Correspondence

a. Members received via email:

- January 17, 2023 - Meeting Agenda
- December 19, 2022 - Meeting Minutes
- Conservation Agent Report

b. Incoming Mail: None

c. Outgoing Mail: None

d. Incoming Mail via email: None

e. Outgoing Mail via email: None

5. Officer and Committee Report (light month, no formal agent report submitted)

- Bluebird Nesting Boxes: There are (5) boxes remaining, all the wait-list applicants have been contacted. There was a total of 55 boxes distributed.
- Ct Audubon Society: The senior Level support is only \$28. **Sue Wheeler motioned to renew the membership; Dave Clark seconded the motion. The motion approved 5-0-0.**
- Hartford Audubon Society Mini-Grant: This is a mini grant for up to \$1,000. This money could be used for the bluebird box program or help branch out other similar projects. Deadline for the grant is February 15th. **Sue Wheeler motioned to file for the Hartford Audubon Society Mini- Grant; Dave Clark seconded the motion. The motion approved 5-0-0.**
- CT Ornithological Society (COA Mini-Grant): This grant period has passed but if we submit an application, it could be held for future consideration. We should apply for the grant.
- The River Network Rain Barrel Project: This is a partnership with Coca-Cola and River Network to supply rain barrel kits for assembly. We would have to develop our own program or workshop. The application may be opening in late February. We applied last year but were not selected; we should re-apply this year.
- Neglected Cemetery Grant: Dan Malo has been working with the town planner about applying for the new grant. Norma O'Leary has several cemeteries in mind and will coordinate with Dan Malo to prepare the grant. The grant is due on February 6th.

Norma O'Leary motioned to file for the Neglected Cemetery Grant; Peter Cummins seconded the motion. The motion approved 5-0-0.

- **CT Bar Association Land Use Law Training:** A brochure was sent around to commission members; the training takes place on March 11th, 2023, from 9:00am-3:30pm as a web presentation. Norma O'Leary asked if anyone attends the webinar if they would bring the information back to the commission. Please let Dan Malo know if you would like to attend. **Norma O'Leary motioned to approve the expenditure of registration fees if any commissioner would like to attend the training; Peter Cummins seconded the motion. The motion approved 5-0-0.**
- **Quaddick Town Farm Road & Wetlands Violation:** Marla Butts (Wetlands Agent) and Dan Malo visited the fire site. There seems to be no new wetlands disturbances. The Wetlands Violation was closed.
- **Commission Membership:** Susan Wheeler and Dave Clark's membership is due to expire on 03/15/2023. They have been advised to present to the selectman's office if they wish to renew their commission membership.

6. Old Business:

- **Sustainable CT:** Program that was created by towns for towns to help towns develop programs to sustainable ecosystems within the town. There are multiple actions a town can do to earn certification levels (Bronze, Silver, or Climate Leader). Further discussion of the program will be discussed next month. Website: <https://sustainablect.org/>
- **Goals for Conservation Commission in 2023**
Some of the goals discussed are assisting highway with MS4 outreach requirements, Rain Barrel grant, French River Watershed based plan, open space planning and updating the open space plan, Five-Mile Greenway, and the Pollinator Pathways, Further discussion of the program will be discussed next month.
- **Spicer Road Plus:** There has been no updates from Marla Butts (Wetlands Agent) on the Wetlands Application.

7. New Business

- a. **2023 Neglected Cemetery Grant:** Already discussed in the Agents Report.

8. Citizens' Comments: None

9. Members' Forum

- Dave Clark: I am hoping to build more bird houses. I will not be at the next meeting.
- Peter Cummins: I will not be at the next meeting as I will be away.

10. Announcements: None

11. Next Meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 7pm (hybrid).

12. Meeting adjourned by Judith Rondeau at 7:58 PM.

*Submitted 01/21/2023
Heather J. Gauthier
Recording Secretary*

*** These minutes have not yet been approved by the Conservation Commission. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.*

*****This meeting was not recorded via zoom due to a technical error.***