



TOWN OF THOMPSON

Conservation
Commission

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Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 17, 2023

2nd Floor Conference Room at the THOMPSON TOWN HALL:

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order by Judith Rondeau at 7:03 PM.

Present: Judith Rondeau (Chair), Peter Cummins, Carol Smith, Dave Clark.

Staff: Dan Malo (Conservation Agent)

Guests:

2. Approval of Minutes - March 22, 2023

Dave Clark moved to approve the minutes as presented; Carol Smith seconded the motion to accept the minutes from the March 22 regular meeting. The motion was approved 4-0-0.

3. Financial Matters

There was no report available.

4. Correspondence

a. Members received via email:

- March 22, 2023 - Meeting Minutes
- Hillside Townhomes - Permit Drawings

b. Incoming Mail:

- Neglected Cemeteries Grant Contract
- Eastern Regional Tourism District Grant Check

c. Outgoing Mail: None

d. Incoming Mail via email:

- Training opportunities/Webinars - information sent to members.

e. Outgoing Mail via email: None

5. Agent Report

- Azud Road/Riverside Drive Application: Discussed at time stamp 07:15
Planning and Zoning will be reviewing the plans on April 24th. Dan Malo wants to have his report to them by Wednesday 9 am. Peter Cummins, Sue Wheeler and Dan Malo did a site walk the previous Friday.
- Bluebird Nesting Boxes: There are requests coming in for boxes. No formal program or report on previous boxes has been set up. Audubon Society posted a new newsletter advertising bird houses for \$30 each, this could impact requests for free houses in Thompson.
- Rain Barrel Network: The network keeps advising applicants to watch the website for updates.
- Conservation District Town Grant Project: Town DPW is to be installing different stormwater practices throughout town for the French River Watershed Based Plan. Judy Rondeau will reach out to the town to see if Conservation members can assist.
- Neglected Cemetery Grant: Thompson has been awarded the grant. There are two (2) draws for reimbursement.
- Roadside Cleanup: The flyers are posted; the program is running through April. The streets will be assigned when the groups are set up. Discussion on increasing costs for transfer stations and increasing populations will increase waste.

- Flood Workshop: This is being offered by US Army Corp of Engineers along with FEMA, June 13 in Willimantic, CT. Other workshops are being offered around the state.
- Japanese Stiltgrass: The commission was asked if there was any plan to mitigate this on town land. Dan Malo referred them to the Department of Public Works.
- Microsoft Office: The program is not working well in the office.
- Dan Malo Schedule: Responsibilities in Woodstock will be ending this Thursday. Dan Malo will be meeting with human resources in Woodstock to lower his responsibilities. He will be taking some time off in the coming months.
- Conservation Commission Conference: Dan Malo will provide information from his training conference at the next meeting in May.
- Burial Site: Possibly this could have been included in the cemetery grant. Dan Malo will reach out to OPM to see if we can amend our application. The site still needs to be identified and marked out. There were noticeable proof of vehicles and people in the area creating disturbance to the land.
- Wetlands Regulations: Marla Butts is looking at revising the regulations.
- Citizens Institute for Rural Design: The town planner has brought up the idea of forming a cohort to make these designs.
- Easements: Dan Malo is working on the cemetery easement list. The property easement discrepancies are being worked on, many of the town owned properties have been reviewed. Dan Malo is planning on making a mailing to properties owners to get permission to review the easements.
- Budget Survey: The town sent out a survey to see what the residents' thoughts are on different town issues.
- CT Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan: DEEP was looking for towns to participate in the survey.

6. Old Business:

- Wetlands Application WA23002 Lavallee, Azud Road/Riverside Drive: Discussed at time stamp 44:00
Most recent revised drawings were available to members.
There was discussion about the number of units, locations of utilities and vernal pool.
Notes requested by the commission include stockpiles materials need to be covered if they are staging for more than 30 days, and sediment controls outlined with verification by town personnel.

7. New Business: None

8. Citizens' Comments: No Citizens Present.

9. Members' Forum:

- Dan Malo – ATV usage in town. Hope there are regulations on using these vehicles on town and private property. There is destruction of property from ATVs. There needs to be a place for the ATVs to be used.

10. Announcements: Next Meeting is Monday, May 15, 2023, at 7pm (hybrid).

11. Meeting adjourned by Judith Rondeau at 8:42 PM.

View the Zoom Recording

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/943sv6yDWawo9Pwz0s6GbnHouxn3qiF7lqX_wJTdfQQqTnEQPmTtqcqZY-Zmhq0.m7FCvgdxxdw0ZWLa

Passcode: kX8*GU\$H

Submitted 05/14/2023

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.*