

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
Regular Meeting of July 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm
Meeting Room 3, Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

These Minutes are Subject to Approval by the Conservation Commission

Present: Holly Kocet, Mark Boland, Mark Lurie, Gail Friedman

Staff: Dawn Fried, Clerk

Ms. Kocet opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES for June 26, 2018

Mr. Boland moved to approve the minutes from June 26, 2018. Ms. Friedman seconded. The minutes from June 26, 2018 were approved. All in favor.

AGENCY REPORTS

Parks and Rec – Ms. Kocet met with Ms. Mangold regarding the High Meadow kiosk. They discussed different ways to display both the Conservation information and the Parks and Rec information in one kiosk. It was decided that Parks and Rec will build an additional kiosk that will be connected to the existing kiosk. The two kiosks will be angled together. The Conservation Commission will fund the project.

DISCUSSION

High Meadow Wildflower Meadow – Ms. Kocet stated that the rain has been great for the meadow and the Commissioners haven't needed to water. The Commission is hoping for great results from the new plantings. Ms. Kocet would like the meadow to be mowed in the late fall. Ms. Kocet suggested roping off an area around the milkweed to prevent it from being mowed. The Commission spoke about the public's feedback regarding the High Meadow. The public has been curious and positive.

Native Plant Policy – Ms. Kocet would like to get started on the native plant policy in September.

Pole Bridge – The following was discussed:

- Mr. Lurie stated that the trail needs to be redefined.
- Mr. Lurie will start raking the trail.
- The Commissioners liked the new parking area
- The surveying of the property is complete and the property has been staked out
- Parks and Rec will order the gate
- Ms. Kocet will ask Mr. Sibley to ask Parks and Rec about mowing the meadow area and about the removal of the brush piles.
- Parks and Rec will cut down 4 to 5 trees located in the meadow

The Commission would like to walk the property on Sunday at 9:00 am.

Website - The Commission continued their discussion regarding adding trail maps to the website. Mr. Lurie will reach out to Keith from Shiftclick regarding the mappings at Pole Bridge.

Kiosks – Ms. Friedman and Mr. Boland have tried reaching out to Mr. Krusen, the town historian, for historical information regarding the Halfway River for display in the kiosk. The Commissioners are still working on the kiosks.

Parks and Rec Discussion Regarding Trails – Ms. Kocet met with Ms. Mangold regarding the trail system in Newtown. The Commission agreed there needs to be a Newtown trail committee that reports to Parks and Rec with Mr. Lurie as the liaison. Ms. Kocet would like to meet with Mr. Rosenthal.

Permanent Conservation Table – Ms. Kocet would like to spot-light the plants from the High Meadow for the month of August.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Boland moved to adjourn the CC meeting. Ms. Friedman seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn Fried, Clerk