

**Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
March 13, 2019
Municipal Center
Room 302
7:30 pm**

Minutes

Present: Marge Burris, Lisa Lozier, Randall Paz, Jason Arnold, Jeffrey Sepko, Devon Tyrell

Absent: Jason Arnold, Michael Derosier

Friends of Paderewski: No one was present.

Staff: Garrett Daigle, Interim Town Planner, Rosemary Morante, Town Council Liaison

Visitors: Art Marino, Tomasso Nature Park

I. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Marge Burris, Chairman.
There was a quorum.

A. PADEREWSKI POND

1. Draft letter to Friends of Paderewski Pond regarding Earth Day event

Discussion:

- Marge distributed a letter that she drafted to the Friends of Paderewski Pond regarding the Earth Day event for Commissioners to review.
- Mention of wood chipping at the banks of the pond presents liability and other resources will be researched. Garrett will be attending a conference of the CT Association of Wetland Scientists and will inquire about material that can be used in place of wood chips. Letter will be tabled until Garrett brings information back to the Commission.
- The result of discussion of the date for the Earth Day event decided on June 15, 2019 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

B. MAIL AND COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman's report - Marge reviewed the correspondence that was received.

C. MINUTES

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to accept the February 13, 2019 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Minutes approved as written

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Website** – Marge updated the website and will add the CT Trails Day Hike that Randall is leading at Pinnacle Rock area on June 2, 2019, River Clean-up, and the Pequabuck River Watershed Association Annual Meeting.
2. **Fracking Waste Ban Discussion** – Rosemary said that the CT State Senate Environmental Committee passed the 2019 bill 28 – 1.
3. **Tomasso Nature Park** – Art Marino reported that schools will be solicited to take tours of the park. The park is currently closed but plans to reopen on April 1, 2019. The park has 3 bears which are being monitored and one swan that has returned after having been gone for several years. There are also blue herons. Art will get pricing for wild clover to be spread at the park for the turtles.

E. FINANCIALS

1. **Treasurers Report** – Garrett put money aside for wildflower and milkweed seeds. Seeds have not been ordered yet as milkweed seeds are not ready. It was suggested that Garrett order the wildflower seeds separately.

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to approve the Treasurers Report.

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

2. **Appropriations** – There was a discussion about a project to make drinking fountain for bees using 2 liter bottles. It would be a good hands-on activity for kids during Family Fun Fest and/or conjunction with Earth Day activities. Kids

can be encouraged to bring their own bottles and materials and some bottles can be on hand through donations or other. Structured pans are needed to put under the bottles to catch water, etc. Discussion to be continued.

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to spend up to \$50.00 for purchase of seeds and bags for seeds.

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Determine location of Quinnipiac River Clean up** - The location determined is Tomlinson Avenue with parking at the back of the high school. There is a trail nearby that leads to the Tomlinson Bridge and Shelter Pond.
2. **Discussion of possible Earth Day Events** – Events were discussed under Paderewski Park and Appropriations.

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to add CT Trails Day as a topic under New Business.

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to add the Aquarian Award as a topic under New Business.

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

G. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. **Land Acquisition Committee** – There has been no activity.

H. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Rosemary Morante said that the Conservation budget has been approved by the Town.
2. On May 14, 2019 a hard water public information session will be held at the Middle School.

I. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by: D. Tyrell to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Guite

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Interim Recording Secretary