

**Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
August 8, 2018
Municipal Center
Room 302
7:30 pm**

Minutes

Present: Marge Burris, Lisa Lozier, Randall Paz, Jason Arnold, Jeffrey Sepko (*arrived at 8:26 pm*)

Friends of Paderewski: No one was present.

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

Visitors: Shianne Cutler, Guest Speaker, John Sokolowski, Dawn Guite, Substitute Recording Secretary

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. Subcommittee – no one was present.

Discussion:

- The Commission reviewed the water quality and rainfall for Paderewski Pond. In July rainfall total was almost 7 inches (almost to the 2016 level). Temperature in July averaged 85 – 86 degrees.
- Lisa reported that kids have built forts and teepees at the pond. She suggests that a clean-up be scheduled in the fall to include the help of nearby neighbors.
- The commission discussed that Nicholas Vasquez, an Eagle Scout, and a Cub Scout group are interested in volunteering their time and may be useful at the pond.
- The commission discussed the possibility of renting a wood chipper to collect the sticks and branches on the ground and using the chips as erosion control around the pond.

- Garrett said it may be possible to have Holcomb Tree Experts deliver a load of woodchips to the park if a wood chipper can not be secured.
- Marge will send an email to the Friends of Paderewski and Commission Members telling them about plans for a cleanup to be scheduled in October (date TBD).
- Lisa said that if town workers are at the pond periodically, it may deter people from leaving debris.

B. MAIL AND COMMUNICATIONS

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

C. MINUTES

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to accept the June 13, 2018 meeting minutes as written.

Seconded: R. Paz

All in Favor 4 to 0

Minutes approved as written

D. RIVER CLEAN-UP DISCUSSION – Shianne Cutler – Guest Speaker

Shianne Cutler, from the Southington Land Trust, suggested a joint clean-up at the Quinnipiac River with the town of Southington to take place at Riverbend Plaza on the Southington/Plainville line. The tentative date is September 15, 2018. A backup location for clean-up will be behind Trumbull Park in Plainville.

She invited Commission Members to a meeting scheduled on August 9, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Southington. She said that CWPM will be donating a 12 yd. dumpster. Permission will be needed from Riverbend Plaza for the dumpster to be onsite during the clean-up. Shianne Cutler will attend the meeting and email Marge with a summary. Jason Arnold will make fliers and post them at local businesses. It will also be posted on the Conservation page of the Town of Plainville website.

E. OLD BUSINESS

- Trails – R. Paz had no information to report about the trails.
- Website – Marge updated the website and will add the September 15, 2018 date for the clean-up.
- River Clean-up – Was discussed under Item D.
- Earth Day 2019 – Jason suggested that a theme be Monarch Butterflies as they are becoming endangered. He suggested that pollinator kits be purchased and distributed to Plainville Schools who would be interested in a project. Randall

checked online and found that kits start at \$12.00 each. Jason will research and come back to the Commission with more information; how many classrooms, money to cover expenses, etc.

- E. Fracking Waste Ban Discussion – Rosemary shared information from DEEP. The 2014 Bill passed for a ban is still in place and active. New regulations have not been determined. The DEEP will try to make this a priority for 2019. Jason commented that he thinks that Plainville should go forward with the ban and reignite the process. Rosemary will look into procedures.

A motion was made by: R. Paz that the Conservation Commission suggest that the Town Council move forward with a ban ordinance.

Seconded by: L. Lozier

All in Favor 4 to 0

Motion Passes

F. FINANCIALS

1. Treasurers Report – Garrett had nothing to report as the new fiscal year has just begun.
2. Appropriations -

A motion was made by: J. Arnold to allocate:

- \$60.00 to CACIWC Membership Dues

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Pequabuck River Watershed Association Field Trip

Positive feedback was given about the Field Trip; that the bus was full and those who attended were there for the same goals which were discussed throughout the trip. 5 or 6 stops were made and Town Engineers from Bristol were very informative and gave out a detailed handout. A comment was made that there appears to be more interest in conservation by townspeople and municipalities.

Rosemary mentioned that she attended the public hearing, and as a citizen, submitted a letter stating that she is against the Tilcon quarry expansion. It was suggested that representative(s) from the Conservation Commission attend Tilcon meetings that are scheduled.

A motion was made by: J. Arnold that the Conservation Commission opposes the Tilcon quarry expansion project due to environmental concerns and the precedence that exists.

Seconded by: L. Lozier

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

H. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. **Land Acquisition Committee** – Garrett said that other than the 3 parcels off Northwest Drive, there has been no activity.
2. **POCD** – Garrett talked about upcoming meetings to which the Conservation Commission will be invited. Meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers. The September 11, 2018 meeting will discuss conservation.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by: L. Lozier to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Seconded by: R. Paz

All in Favor 5 to 0

Motion Passes

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Guite

Dawn Guite
Acting Recording Secretary