## TOWN OF PLAINVILLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION Meeting held on February 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm.

In attendance were Marguerite Burris, Roberta Lauria, Eric Levy, Sue Holcomb, and Lisa Lozier.

Randall Paz had notified Marge that he would be unable to attend.

Sue Holcomb has returned after re-applying and being ratified by the town council. It is good to have her back.

Also in attendance were Town manager Robert Lee, liason to the Commission Rosemary Morante, Police Chief Matthew Catania, Guest and former Commission member Lawson Taylor and "the Friends of Paderewski Pond" (see attached).

Roberta Lauria made the motion to waive the order of the agenda. Eric Levy seconded and all were in favor.

Lawson Taylor had been invited to this evening's meeting to discuss his experience when he had undertaken the task of addling Canada goose eggs. The project he took on was over the span of 4 years. It required bringing his canoe and returning every other day to the island during the time of egg laying. The most eggs he addled was 33, the least 12 or 13. In accordance with the Humane Society guidelines, no harm to the adults (they are just trying to protect their young), shake or oil the eggs in a very early stage of incubation, number the eggs, and return eggs to the nest. It is necessary to bring the federal permit that is required to have in order to do this, and there is a data log that needs to be filled out. His feeling was that it is a very time-consuming process and that he felt he had not made a dent in the population.

Mr. Lee is thinking that possibly 1 volunteer from the "Friends" and 1 town employee might be able to do the task.

Mr. Lee would like to have Chuck Lee from the DEEP at the next meeting to discuss the process of testing for chemicals/elements. The area of the pond where there was an abundance of fallen debris/trees was cleaned up. The "widow-makers" were removed. There has not been an opportunity to get depth measurements or water volume numbers. He has asked for \$10,000 from Capital Improvements, for now, to be able to hire consultants. When the weather gets better he would like to get out with folks to where the walkway/bridge would go to get an idea for costs.

At this point the meeting was turned over to Police Chief Catania.

It is the intention of the Dept. to help in any way. There is concern of the residents residing on the pond to be able to remain anonymous should the police need to be called. There was reassurance that this can be accommodated by the caller requesting to not send a cruiser to their home. Any problems with this protocol can be addressed with the Chief at any time. Friday and Saturday evenings are usually busier than any other weekday, so that will play into the response time to a complaint. The standard rule for noise is 10pm. They can't know there is a problem if nobody calls. There have been routine checks in the area and there will be a few more added. He again reassured the residents that if they have any concerns, they may contact him directly.

Some of the other issues for the area included that there was still some fishing line in

the trees, a need to replace the wildlife refuge signs that were on the island, and that strange bubbles have been seen in the water.

At this point Eric Levy made the motion to return to the agenda. Roberta Lauria seconded and all were in favor.

SECRETARY MINUTES- Eric Levy made the motion to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Roberta Lauria seconded and all were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT-The Operating Expenses have a total of \$1618.69. Marge would like to ask for an increase in our budget to be able to "join" the organizations that we have been able to be affiliated with in the past.

## MAIL AND COMMUNICATION-

CT. Forest and Parks sent a membership request.

Aquarian Water Co. sent their info for nominating a volunteer to be honored. The Land Conservation Council sent info about their upcoming conference on March 19<sup>th</sup>. More info about Fracking from Jennifer Suskind.

## **OLD BUSINESS-**

TRAILS- Nothing at this time.

WEBSITE - Nothing new at this time.

RIVER CLEANUP- Lisa stated that there may be a need to have someone else take on this event. Eric said he would be interested. More discussion is needed.

EARTH DAY- This event may be on hold.

FISHING DERBY- Roberta would like to contact the Middle School PTC as soon as possible. SHED INVENTORY- Nothing at this time.

FRACKING-Rosemary stated that part of the problem about this material is that the EPA hasn't labeled it as hazardous. Marge went to Jennifer's seminar in Middletown and would love to have her address the council or have a special meeting. Roberta Lauria made the motion to invite Jennifer Suskind to a Special Meeting to discuss the impact of Fracking. Lisa Lozier seconded and all were in favor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

MISC.- Since the order of the meeting had been waived earlier, Sue and the other members had introductions.

Lisa needs to resign as Secretary due to commitments regarding elder issues. She does not want to leave the Commission, but can't fully fulfill the position of Sec.at this time.

APPROPRIATIONS- There were none at this time.

Roberta Lauria made the motion to adjourn at 9:40pm. Eric Levy seconded and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa R. Lozier

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