

ENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, April 13, 2021

A Regular Virtual Meeting of the Enfield Conservation Commission was called to order by Chair Karen LaPlante on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 @ 7:41 PM

ROLL CALL

Chair LaPlante took the roll.

Present - Chair LaPlante, Commissioner Kober, Commissioner Sacerdote, Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall, Commissioner Wyzga, and Commissioner Cote

Absent – Commissioner Dynia, Commissioner Vose, and Commissioner McGuire

Also Present – Laurie Whitten – Director Development Services, Georgie Driver - Assistant Town Planner and Karen Timpone – Recording Secretary

Public Participation – None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the minutes of March 9, 2021 was made by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussed - 5/0/1 abstention by Commissioner Sacerdote

Chair LaPlante empowered Commissioner Kober as a voting member for this meeting.

New & Pending applications – IWWA and Planning & Zoning Commissions: Laurie Whitten reported IWWA - 0 Shaker Road just in front of Henry Barnard – Daycare Facility - The Learning Center – should be no impact to the wetlands and from Planning & Zoning a text amendment to let that in a limited professional zone. An attached garage at 40 Edgewood Drive. Curtain drain at 11 Fairfield. South River Street Town application of road work, pavement, and new catch basins. 40 Moody Road – 45 different locations of storm water drains. PZC text amendment to building larger than 5,000 sq ft in a business district - to allow child daycare facility – Special permit application site plan to convert vacant building property into mixed use building containing business offices and residential apartments within the Hazardville design district.

Discussion on the Tree Replacement Program: Chair LaPlante explained to Georgie the tree plan that the ECC would like to put into place. They are following the Longmeadow guide. Commissioner Wyzga is working on invasive species. She compared the list in the Longmeadow Manual to the list that UCONN sent out and they are not the same. A lot of similarities but there are differences too. She thinks we should use the UCONN list instead of the Longmeadow. Commissioner Cote suggested that there be a link to the UCONN site with invasives as it may change. Chair LaPlante suggested they put in the initial list and then do an addendum. Commissioner Kober feels we should continue to go ahead with it, get the invasives done then possibly go forward with the some type of tree replacement program.

POCD Update: The Steering Committee is meeting on the third Wednesday of the month. There has been one meeting so far. There will also be a public participation meeting on April 28, 2021. Documents are posted on the Town's website under Planning & Zoning and POCD update. Chair LaPlante asked the ECC to take a look and give feedback. Laurie Whitten suggested that the ECC talk about what they would

like to see in the POCD when it comes to the conservation and open space elements. Chair LaPlante is asking for a list of suggestions. Commissioner Cote suggested it be put on the agenda for next meeting. Georgie suggested putting the tree program in the POCD. She suggested parks, open space, etc. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall said there was supposed to be Mancuso Park at the Transfer station. She also mentioned the rail trail which will be on the Town Council Agenda. Rep Carol Hall put out a survey on Facebook to see if people are in favor it. Laurie stated that it will be on Town Council's agenda for the April 19th meeting. Commissioner Cote asked Laurie how the ECC can get involved as far as seeing these types of projects come to the ECC first so feedback can be sent to Town Council. She suggested a letter be sent as a Commission through the Town Manger to the Town Council as soon as possible. Commissioner Kober said he would create a draft and send to ECC. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall made motion that a letter be prepared in support of creating a rail to trail at the eastern rail line running through Enfield connecting East Longmeadow and East Windsor, seconded by Commissioner Kober – no further discussion – unanimous 6/0/0. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall encouraged everyone to fill out the survey sent by Carol Hall regarding this.

Correspondence All Commissioners:

Chair LaPlante reminded everyone about JoAnne Kneiss's tree dedication on Thursday April 22ND at the Senior Center at 7 pm. It is blossoming right now. She asked that all wear masks.

Liaison Report – Economic Development Commission – Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall reported that there will be a meeting on Thursday. The last meeting was on March 18th. The membership was reduced to 9 members and they have approved Bylaws. Maryann Turner is the new Chair and Phillip Kober is the Vice Chair. TIF was discussed. There will probably be modifications to the TIF because of the change in ownership at the mall. Laurie added that when the TIF was created you have the original assessed value of the entire TIF area and when the mall was devalued through the court system, it had to be modified. The mall has since depreciated and they want to reflect the deprecation in the original assessed value and when it decreases there will be more money in the TIF.

Liaison Report - Scantic River Watershed Association – Commissioner Cote reported – They are keeping the trails clear. Mike Emmons has been approached to be part of the Committee for the POCD. Chair LaPlante asked if anyone paddled on the day the race would have been held. Commissioner Cote said about 6 people or so were supposed to paddle the river. He went fishing and said the water was low that day.

Adjournment: Next meeting is Tuesday May 11, 2021 –

Motion was made by Commissioner Cote to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga – No discussion 6/0/0 – Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned @ 8:26 pm