



**MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
March 12, 2024
7:30 PM - ENFIELD ROOM**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cote called the meeting to order at 7:42pm.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bill Cote, Michael Dynia , Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Nancy Wyzga, Kathleen Vose

Absent:

Also present was Rebecca Jones, Recording Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 13, 2024

MOTION by: Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall seconded: Nancy Wyzga to accept the February 13, 2024 minutes.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: Bill Cote, Michael Dynia , Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CORRESPONDENCE/STAFF REPORT

Commissioner Dynia asked Chair Cote if he had followed up on the money received by the Town for nips. He has not yet spoken with the Town Manager, but he will soon. Commissioner LaPlante also spoke with Councilor Ludwick and he also was unsure. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall shared a potential bill that would allow towns to ban individual nip sales. She requested that banning nips be added as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Commissioner LaPlante shared a Bigfoot day organized by Tolland Conservation

Department, which incorporates town history. She thought it was a creative way to involve the community.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES/OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

None.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND STAFF

1. Economic Advisory Liaison
2. Scantic River Watershed Association Liaison

1. Economic Advisory Liaison

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall spoke about a property with frontage near Powder Hollow and the potential for an open space purchase.

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante, seconded: Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall to add an Executive Session after New Business to discuss real estate matters.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga
No: Bill Cote Abstain: None.

2. Scantic River Watershed Association Liaison

Commissioner Dynia shared the preparations for the Spring Splash canoe race.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. List of Natural Resources
2. Proposed Enfield Sports Complex

Commissioner LaPlante expressed confusion as to the exact turf being used by the developer as it has not been determined. Chair Cote read a letter he drafted sharing information related to artificial turf and other various environmental concerns related to the proposed sports complex. All comments made at the next meeting must be tied back to the pertinent regulations. The commissioners discussed the impact of its relation to the public water supply. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall is extremely concerned about the terrace escarpment slopes and the potential damage. The maps are not cohesive and are marked poorly. She expressed concern to town staff, who directed her to express all her concerns during public comment. Commissioner Dynia noted that the ground is not flat at all and will require significant excavation. Commissioner LaPlante shared information related to expert testimony. She is unsure if these experts will be available to testify at the next public hearing. Regulated activities and unregulated activities were discussed. Commissioner

LaPlante opined that athletic fields should be a regulated activity by the Aquifer Protection Agency. That agency does not allow public comment, so it must be brought up at a Planning & Zoning Commission meeting. Temperature impacts were discussed. Various information related to PFAS was shared by Commissioner LaPlante. She also shared artificial turf alternatives. Cancer rates related to PFAS exposure were shared. The commissioners made a plan as to who would address specific issues at the next public hearing.

MOTION by: Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, seconded: Karen LaPlante to enter into the executive session at 9:20pm.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Bill Cote, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None. Abstain: None.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION by: Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall **seconded:** Karen LaPlante to enter into executive session.

UPON A ROLL CALL VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Paul Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

April 9, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante, seconded: Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Vose
Secretary

Rebecca Jones
Recording Secretary