



KILLINGLY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, June 17, 2020
7:00pm

2020 JUN 19 AM 11:26
TOWN OF KILLINGLY, CT
Elizabeth M. Quillen

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Public can view this meeting on Facebook Live.

Go to www.killinglyct.gov and click on Facebook Live at the bottom of the page.

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.
- II. **Roll Call**
Attending: Donna Bronwell, Jacob Gadbois, Jean Mountford, Richard Fedor, Ed Grandelski, Mark LaPrade, Jonathon Blake, Marina Capraro
Absent without notice: Ralph Chartier, Bruce Kohl, Bonni Piccione
Absent with notice: Sharon Fekete
- III. **Citizens Participation-** Pursuant to Governor's Executive Order 7B, all public comment can be emailed to publiccomment@killinglyct.gov or mailed to Town of Killingly, 172 Main Street, Killingly, CT 06239 on or before the meeting. All public comment received prior to the meeting will be posted on the Town's website www.killinglyct.gov.
- IV. **Minutes**
 - A. **Feb 19, 2020 – Regular Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made to adopt the February 19th Meeting Minutes; motion seconded; all in favor; motion passed.
- V. **Business**
 - A. **Chase Reservoir**
 - a. **Updates to Management Plan:** Commission members were provided original copies and an edited version of the Chase Reservoir Management Plan, a management agreement between the Wyndham Land Trust (easement holder) and the Town of Killingly (property owner). Jake made suggestions to edit section 7, reflecting that there is in fact trash cans provide and regularly emptied by the town of Killingly. A discussion ensued regarding the public uses and restrictions surrounding the dam on Pettingil Road. Staff is seeking out a contact with the water company to further clarify their position on public use of the dam.
 - B. **Anticipated Cancellations Due to COVID-19:** All of the spring events the Conservation Commission had anticipated holding were cancelled due to COVID-19. Additionally, it was announced that the Tomato Festival will be cancelled. Walktober is anticipated to still be held, and the KCC will move forward with hosting an event, following guidelines. Donna also suggested the possibility of running a bus tour in the fall, with half-capacity seating on the bus, to maintain the recommended distance. Staff will look into this possibility.
 - C. **Five Ponds- Status Update:** The holding company was due to present at a KCC meeting over the spring, but has been held up by COVID. The commission anticipates hearing from the

company again before the end of the year regarding presenting their proposal for the town's acquisition of the five ponds property.

- D. Priority Properties List – Updates and mapping:** Staff presented the KCC with an updated list of Priority Properties. A discussion ensued about establishing a ranking criteria and conservation initiatives for the commission.
- E. Environmental Award Vote:** At the Regular Meeting in February, the commission nominated Ralph Chartier to receive the 2019 Environmental Award. A motion was made to entertain a vote to award Ralph Chartier the 2019 Environmental Award; motion seconded; all in favor; motion passed.
- F. Get Outside Advertisement**
 - a. Vote to expend funds for advertisement in local papers:** Donna Bronwell opted, out of her own funds, to pay \$280 for a "Go Outside" advertisement to run 4x in local newspapers during the pandemic lockdowns. Donna asked the commission to reimburse her. A discussion ensued about the advertisement. A motion was made to reimburse Donna Bronwell \$280 from the Conservation Commission budget and expend an additional \$140 to run the advertisement for an additional 2 weeks; motion seconded; all in favor; motion passed.
- G. Planning for a Workshop on Conservation Easements:** When in-person gatherings are permitted, the KCC intends to hold a workshop informing residents of conservation easements, preservation options, etc. Staff reached out to the organization "Land for Good" whom expressed interest in participating. We anticipate collaboration from local ag commissions and TLGV.

VI. Correspondence to the Commission

A. DEEP notice on NTE received 05/01/2020: Notice of Tentative Decision

DEEP provided a notice to the Conservation Commission on their Intent to Issue a Permit for the Discharge of Water in a State Waterway. A discussion ensued about the infrastructure involved in this discharge and the NTE power plant.

VII. Town Council Liaison – Mark LaPrade; Alternate- Ed Grandelski

Town Council Liaison Mark LaPrade and alternate Ed Grandelski provided updates on the various business that the town council has conducted over the last few months. A discussion ensued regarding the conservation commission's budget, and the desire for the conservation commission's remaining budget at the end of the fiscal year at the end of June to be reallocated to the open space land acquisition fund. Per recommendation of Ed, the commission entertained a motion to ask the town council to put the remainder of the budget into the open space land acquisition fund; motion seconded; all in favor; passed. Staff will provide a copy of the meeting minutes reflecting this request to town manager and to the town council via Ed Gradelski.

VIII. Other

A. Next Town Council Meeting – 07/07/2020

B. Next KCC meeting – July 15, 2020

IX. Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded; all in favor; meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.