

**Windsor Conservation Commission
Town Council Chambers and Zoom
Draft Minutes
January 28, 2025**

Present: L. Chayes, S. LeGendre, B. Robinson, T. Tomcho, C. Yeich, C. Young, J. Zepperi, Ex officio, C. Thompson

Absent: J. Bergeron, J. Henry

Chair Tammy called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Brad motioned to accept November 26, 2024 minutes; seconded by Lea. Motion carried 7.0.0

Old Business

-Tim reported on Nips Legislation – a bill to ban nips statewide has been proposed again by state Rep. Foster. Tim cautioned that 95% of proposed bills do not make it out of committee. He will continue to monitor legislation efforts regarding “nips.” A recycling machine that accommodates nips sizes would be part of an answer to the litter they produce. It was suggested that links with pertinent information be placed on our website.

-Farewell – Chloe has been in contact with the DPW who suggested a bald cypress tree with placement near the wooden bridge on the “Center” river trail in honor of Ann Beaudin, the CC’s former chairwoman. Colette will investigate a plaque to acknowledge the honoree.

-Compost Bins- Chloe reports that the DPW must flesh out the details on available funds and amount to be budgeted to get this project in motion. Questions still arise as to: minimal number of bins required; number of people interested; merchandise price increase from previous year; possible Canadian (Enviroworld) tariff additions; and perhaps a discounted rate offered through the town. Chloe suggested a simple poll be taken online to solicit interest in this project and to get an estimated presale count. Facebook under Windsor Bulletin Board was one suggestion. Joe is willing to place notification at the senior center.

-Plastics Forum – Brad will explore possible speakers with the DEEP.

-Farmington River State Park proposal – Brad shared his opinion that the northwest property from Bloomfield to Northwest Park will probably not be designated as a state park but rather could become open land for public access with trails running through it.

New Business

Elections – Brad nominated Tammy for CC Chair, seconded by Lea – accepted unanimously 6.0.0

Colette nominated Brad for Vicechair, seconded by Lea – accepted unanimously 6.0.0

Sherwin nominated Colette for secretary, seconded by Joe -carried unanimously 6.0.0

-Website posts – Chair Tammy suggested posting articles monthly from reputable sources. The heading could be “Articles of Interest.” All articles selected must be sent to Chloe for approval.

-Plan for Millbrook – this 95-acre park acquired in 2018 does not currently have a maintenance plan. The town is now working on a hydraulics report. There are several concerns and problems: erosion, drainage, invasive and toxic plants, restrictions, predatory insects, available funds. Chloe did not think this was proper timing for CC involvement. Tammy would like the CC to be of assistance when the timing is right. A community event was suggested – pulling loosestrife maybe? The clubhouse is being used as a camp for kids.

-POCD – the plan of conservation and development is being updated, and all are encouraged to render input on the town website. Brad is a member of the committee. A public workshop is being planned at the end of February, tentatively scheduled for the 29th.

Tim commented that during the CACIWC session he attended for conducting local Natural Resource Inventories -presented by the Andover and the Ridgefield Conservation Commissions- it was mentioned that when updating many towns follow the previous old plan outlines. They recommended beginning from scratch – the most difficult part was determining categories for the NRI. (Mapping of vernal pools was a new category they added.) Tim stated that having a professional like Brad with environmental expertise on the POCD was an asset.

-Petitions from Commissioners – Colette referenced an article that appeared in The Courant regarding the diminishing bird population in our states due to dangerous pesticide usage. She suggested a photo contest, making birds of Windsor the topic. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

Brad motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:11.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Yeich, Secretary