

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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TOWN HALL

238 Danbury Road

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**WILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2, 2009 – 7:30 P.M.

TOWN HALL - MEETING ROOM "A"

**PRESENT: Commissioners: Patrice Gillespie , Kate Throckmorton, Kristen Begor and Nick Lee , Kim Young and Dave Hapke**

**NOT PRESENT: Christopher Coyle (Noticed of absence)**

**ALSO PRESENT: Patricia Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs; Karen Padowicz, Administrative Secretary**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Begor called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

I. MEETING CALENDAR – 2010

Dave Hapke MOTIONED to approve the meeting calendar for 2010, SECONDED by Kim Young and carried 6-0-0.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nick Lee MOTIONED to keep the slate the same, that is Kristen Begor as Chairman and Kim Young as Secretary/Vice Chair, SECONDED by Dave Hapke and carried 6-0-0.

III. INLAND WETLAND REFERRALS –  
None

IV. PLANNING and ZONING REFFERALS –  
None

IV. ONGOING BUSINESS

1. Parks - All

The Commission reviewed Mike Conklin's memorandum.

Ms. Sesto described a project that Mike Conklin is working on. Essentially he uses the GPS unit to identify the trail locations within the parks. This information is then entered into the GIS, which is

in turn shared with the likes of Google. Google updates their maps and that allows Google map users to "drill down" to a park and see the Google map with the trails overlaid.

Ms. Sesto reported that the town now has two foot contours to go with the aerial photographs. Maps with topo can now be generated for any parcel. This resource is not yet readily available to the public.

## 2. Open Space Preservation – Sesto

Ms. Sesto stated that there are no new developments to report.

## 3. Plan of Conservation and Development – Throckmorton

Ms. Throckmorton reported that the Plan had been approved.

Patrice Gillespie reported that she had attended a CACIWC seminar last month and gave a brief overview of what was covered which included a speaker, Patrick Cummings on the subject of endangered birds and their impact on development proposals.

## 4. Center Tree Plan – Sesto, Lee, Throckmorton

Ms. Sesto stated that ATT&T had requested a hold on planting the donated tree from Frank Mobley until further notice.

Mr. Lee stated that there is still some opportunity to plan this fall if approved shortly by ATT&T.

## 5. Recycling – Begor, Hapke

Mr. Hapke reported that the ad hoc recycling committee is waiting for the new recycling program to settle in. They will start meeting again in January to evaluate the new program and work on next steps.

## 6. Norwalk River Valley Trail – Hapke, Coyle

Ms. Sesto stated that she will be attending a meeting this Friday with neighboring town representatives to work on coordination of the plan.

She announced that Norwalk River Valley Greenway recreational trails grant application has passed the first review and that there were two more agencies that need to review it. The grants will be awarded in March.

## 7. Work with other Commissions/Committees

### a. Parks and Rec./Allen's Meadows – Young

Kim Young stated that no funding available is available, so there is nothing to report.

### b. Energy Commission

Ms. Gillespie reported that there will be a Wilton Green Discovery Festival on May 2, 2009. The participants will include the Wilton High School, Woodcock Nature Center, Ambler Farm and the Garden Club. The exhibits will focus on energy efficient programs; there will be workshops, awards and speakers which will be held at the high school field house.

## 8. Regional Projects

### c. Deer Management – Sesto

Ms. Sesto stated that a representative from Redding's BeSafeRedding program will be a guest speaker at the upcoming Deer Committee meeting next Wednesday evening. BeSafeRedding focuses on connecting private property owners with hunters.

Ms. Sesto stated that the Alliance is continuing forward with public awareness.

## 9. Other

## V. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Controlled Hunt 2009/2010

Ms. Sesto reported that 9 deer were harvested today and that the total count was not much more than 30, which is very low as compared to previous seasons. She added that neighboring towns have done much better this season than Wilton and would like to revamp the program.

A discussion ensued concerning the population of deer in town and feedback from the public.

## VI. LIASON REPORT

Mr. Hapke reported the Planning and Zoning meeting and stated that the Inland Wetland Commission meeting had been cancelled.

## VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Sesto stated that the budget is due this Friday and felt confident that the Household Hazardous Waste project would continue but felt that some funding for park maintenance may be decreased.

## VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 11/4/09

Dave Hapke MOTIONED to approve the minutes of 11/4/09 seconded by Kim Young and carried 6-0-0.

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Begor stated that this is Kate Throckmorton's last meeting, as she has completed ten years of service. She acknowledged Ms. Throckmorton's dedication and contribution to the Conservation Commission for the past ten years. Chairman Begor presented her with a donation to be made in her honor to the Wilton Land Trust to support the "2012 Project" in memory of Nick Parisot.

The commissioners joined Chairman Begor with accolades for Ms. Throckmorton's contribution to the commission.

Kristen Begor MOTIONED to adjourn, seconded by Kate Throckmorton and carried 6-0-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Padowicz  
Recording Secretary

DRAFT