

T.C.

**Town of Vernon
Conservation Commission Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES
Monday, April 17, 2017
7:00pm
Council Chambers, 3rd Floor
Vernon Town Hall, 14 Park Place Rockville - Vernon, CT**

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
17 MAY 25 PM 4:16

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairman Ryan Goad. Present were members James Simon, Richard Clark and Jason Seacat
Staff Present: Town Planner Marina Rodriguez
Recording Secretary: Kathleen Minor

2. Administrative Actions

A. Acceptance of minutes of March 20, 2017

A motion to accept the minutes of the March 20, 2017 meeting was made by Ryan Goad. It was seconded by James Simon. Ryan Goad, James Simon and Richard Clark all voted yes, Jason Seacat abstained as he was not present at the March 20, 2017 meeting.

B. Communications Received

- The Habitat – Winter 2017 publication

C. Letters sent by Conservation Commission Last Month

- None

D. Organizational Considerations

- Recruiting new members

E. Annual Meeting Schedule

- Item to be removed – meeting schedule has been submitted

3. Open Space Program Update

Ann Letendre, Karl Hasel and Tom Ouellette from the Open Space Task Force attended the meeting and provided updates and information regarding the following:

- Update on 179 square feet of 30 acres of Strong Farm will be transferred to the Town
- Open Space Grant initiatives with Bolton Land Trust

- An initiative for a zone change for areas in town that are residentially zoned, but have conservation easements to be changed to the Open Space Zone

Chairman Ryan Goad motioned to rezone certain existing open space parcels proposed by the Open Space Task Force and Conservation Commission from Residential Zone to the Open Space Zone to implement the future land use plan map (page 119) of the 2012 Plan of Conservation and Development. James Simon seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. New Business

A. Application Review and Comments

Application [IWC-2017-01] of Hyde Park LLC for a Wetlands Permit to conduct activities in a wetlands area at #14 Hyde Ave. (Assessor's ID: Map#46, Block #0071, and Lot/Parcel #00019).

- A revised plan was sent by the applicant per Town Planner Rodriguez since the last meeting
- The commercial use has not been identified by applicant to date
- Discussion ensued and current draft comments to IWC from Chairman Ryan Goad presented to members was reviewed

James Simon made a motion that Chairman Ryan Goad adds comments to his draft comments recommending additional constraints for conditional seasonal water flows. Jason Seacat seconded and it passed unanimously.

B. Natural Resources Update

Bolton Lakes Issues

- The culvert passing between upper and middle Bolton Lake by Hatch Hill Road was discussed; presently at a design phase with DEEP
- The need to preserve the lake area from the usage of fertilizer was discussed

Future Activities

- On April 20, 2017 at 7pm there will seminar sponsored by Friends of Bolton Lakes and the Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance at the Bolton Town Hall offices by Landscape Designer Kathleen Connolly regarding "Landscaping in a Watershed for Healthier Lakes and Rivers".
- One June 1, 2017 at 7pm the Bolton Lakes Watershed Conservation Alliance meeting will hold their meeting at the Tolland Agricultural Center (TAC) in Tolland and there will be a presentation by Michael Carlo on the use of drones in environmental surveys.

5. Other Goals

- The Commission will continue to monitor and revisit the culvert passing and preserving the area due to the use of fertilizer at the properties surrounding the Bolton Lakes
- Commission member recruitment

6. Adjournment

Chairman Ryan Goad motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. James Simon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Minor".

Kathleen Minor
Recording Secretary