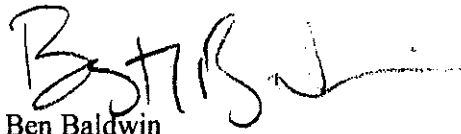


Town of Stonington Conservation Commission
Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on November 27, 2017
Police Station Community Meeting Room, 173 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT

1. Vice Chairman Michael Schefers called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Members present were, Ben Baldwin, James Kading, and Jim Friedlander. Members Stuart Cole, Sheila Lyons, and Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan were absent. Bill Lyman of the Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee and other members of the public were present.
2. Review of Town developments and Proposals
 - a. *Any pending applications and new preliminary proposals* - None
3. Old Business
 - a. *Dam Committee* – Jim Friedlander said that the Committee will be reviewing the list to see which might benefit by removal.
 - b. *Discussion of Stonington's 200 Greatest Roadside Trees* – Ben Baldwin said the list should include town-managed trees. He noted a large maple within the town-managed Rhodes Cemetery on Pequot Trail at High Ridge Drive has a large hole at its rear. Gravestones and the gate were damaged by trees falling from the adjacent property during the 10/29/2017 storm. Will ask DPW or tree warden to inspect. Michael Schefers will reach out to the tree warden. Submissions to <http://bit.ly/2y7WGgl>.
 - c. *Discussion of open space and conservation easement transfers for ongoing and past subdivisions* – No new developments. Some transfers are still believed to be pending.
 - d. *Discussion of 2015 Plan of Conservation and Development* - and
 - e. *Discussion of updates to 2007 Open Space Plan* – A discussion was held with Bill Lyman regarding whether to combine the natural resources inventory with the updated open space plan. Lyman noted that the open space plan has been partially updated with contributions from several members and that the Commission might wish to bring the draft to the Department of Planning for help with its completion of mapping. Michael Schefers said the subcommittee should draft the structure of the new document and review the 2007 plan with its action items. MOTION: Combine the natural resources inventory with the updated open space plan (Jim Kading, Jim Friedlander). Passed unanimously. Other POCD tasks of the Conservation Commission include the list of open space and the parcel rating sheet. Ben Baldwin said he would separate out the committed from uncommitted open space to make it more manageable and that total committed open space has increased from 15.0% to 15.2% (49.3 acres) since the 2015 POCD. The parcel rating sheet will be part of the updated Open Space Plan.
 - f. *Installing signs on Town open space properties* – Jim Friedlander to inspect markers on the Route 201 frontage of Town-owned open space parcel 138-2-1D located on the east side of North Stonington Road just south of Wolf Neck Road. The Dunns Court frontage is unmarked.
 - g. *Any other Old business* - None.
4. Open Space Parcels
 - a. *Discussion of parcels for preservation* – Specific parcels not discussed.
 - b. *Discussion of maintenance of Town owned open space parcel between Hewitt Rd., Hatch St. and Geiser St., Mystic. Assessor's Map 161, Block 10, Lot 6E.* - Ben Baldwin said Barbara McKrell had not heard back from the abutter, but may in the growing season. Ben said he hadn't put signs up at the two frontages due to their narrowness, the brook and brush blocking access.
 - c. *Discussion of CTDEEP Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program* - The due date is 2/1/2018. The Commission does not have targets for acquisition.
5. New Business – none.
6. Review of draft minutes – 10/23/17 – MOTION: To approve the minutes as amended (Jim Friedlander, Jim Kading). Passed unanimously.
7. Adjournment – James Kading made a motion to adjourn at 8:11 pm. Jim Friedlander seconded. Passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by



Ben Baldwin

Secretary, Town of Stonington Conservation Commission

Approved at a regular meeting on 1/22/2018