

Town of Stonington Conservation Commission  
Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on October 28, 2019  
Police Station Community Meeting Room, 173 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT

**1. Call to order** - Chairman Stuart Cole called the meeting to order at 7:02PM. Members present were Ben Baldwin, Sheila Lyons, Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan and Jim Friedlander. 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 described the upper Whitford Brook. Ben Baldwin gave him a GIS map of Stonington Dams based on the CT DEEP GIS database from the 1990s, a list of the dams and a copy of the map from Joseph Vargas' Stonington Ice which shows ice ponds and dams in town. Ben Baldwin said that a dam permit has tentatively been approved by the State for a detention basin at the Perkins Farm on land that will become Town of Stonington open space.

b. *Discussion of Stonington's 200 Greatest Roadside Trees.* Jim Friedlander said that Kathy Weinberger was interested in the list. Ben Baldwin said he would send Jim the list which totals a few dozen nominees, most submitted by past Commission member Tim Bell.

c. *Discussion of open space and conservation easement transfers for ongoing and past subdivisions.*

- Ben Baldwin said that 8.6 acres at the Castle Hill subdivision has been transferred to Stonington Land Trust. The land is at the end of Castle Hill Road, also has two frontages on Pequot Trail, abuts SLT's Fusina Conservation Easement and is subject to utility easements.

- Ben Baldwin said that 15.81 acres addressed to the Captains Way cul-de-sac currently under construction at the Birchwood Farms subdivision (formerly 126 South Broad Street) has transferred to the town although 12.033 acres had been proposed. Stuart Cole asked that a copy of the recorded map be obtained.

- Stuart Cole will speak with Town Planner Keith Brynes about how the Perkins Farm open space will be held and maintained and request a site walk.

- Ben Baldwin said that signs on Latimer Point Road say 'No Trespassing' and 'Private' but are north of the coastal public access which includes two parking spaces. The road itself is within the Sculco-Weiner subdivision open space set aside. Ownership isn't clear as the Commission had believed the Town would take ownership, but the land remains in the name of the lot owners.

d. *Discussion of 2015 Plan of Conservation and Development.* Fran Hoffman, the Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee (POCDIC) liaison to the Conservation Commission met with the Town Planner Keith Brynes regarding the addition of open space as a layer to the Town GIS. Ben Baldwin said he had sent him the list of committed open space. Brynes will get a quote on the cost to convert the spreadsheet to a GIS layer. Hoffman distributed a table of the 2015 POCD Recommended Policies Pertaining to the Conservation Commission. These are different from the action items listed in the POCD. The Commission members will review for discussion during the next meeting.

**5. New Business.**

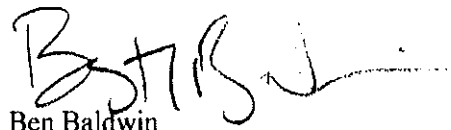
a. Jim Friedlander asked about the possibility of voting when absent. Stuart Cole said this might be possible if a vote is tabled until a following meeting.

b. Correspondence from FEMA said that preliminary flood maps will become effective as of 4/3/2020.

**6. Review of draft minutes** – MOTION: To approve the minutes of 7/22/2019 as amended to note Sheila Lyons absent on 4/22/2019 (Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan, Sheila Lyons). Passed unanimously.  
MOTION: To approve the minutes of 9/23/2019 as presented (Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan, Sheila Lyons). Passed unanimously.

7. Adjournment – Sheila Lyons made a motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm. Passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by



Ben Baldwin  
Secretary, Town of Stonington Conservation Commission

Approved at a regular meeting on  
11/27/2019