East Haddam
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, Sept 6, 2022
Municipal Office Building Room #1
Adopted Oct 4, 2022

1. Call to order – called to order at 7:00 p.m.
   In attendance: Susan Pagnano, Charlie Myers, Charlotte Gelston, Bernie Gillis, Joe Sina, Thom Delventhal, and Gary Wilson

2. Alternate appointments (if necessary)

3. Welcome to new CC members and guests
   Guests: Cameron Beard

4. Approval of agenda
   Motion to approve the Agenda: Mr. Delventhal, Second: Mr. Myers. Brought to vote, passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Conservation Commission minutes Aug 2, 2022
   Changes included
   i. Corrected multiple misspellings of Mr. Myers and Mr. Delventhal
   ii. Corrected spelling for Pray (Prey), residence (residents), tile (Tite), and Sthil (Stihl)
   iii. Added Mr. Griggs to 7/10,11/22 Stewardship report
   iv. Corrected note that elderberry plants were NOT put in at Harris this year

   Motion to approve Minutes as corrected: Mr. Sina, Second: Mr. Delventhal. Passed by unanimous vote.

6. Old business

   a. Subcommittee updates

      i. Stewardship & Forestry Management – Mr. Gillis

1. New signs, kiosks, or map holders were installed at Robbie Road and Mott Lane (Moodus Forest and Town Beach)
2. Trails were walked and cleared at Lena, Rose Farm, Sabine, Harris, and Patrell.
3. Roaring Brook Bridge was checked out OK after the 5-6" rainfall

ii. Outreach & Promotion – Mr. Wilson

1. Airport Festival in August was well attended (est 75-100 visitors at our tent)
2. Honey Hill Farm (EHLT) and North Moodus Road (Open Space) properties were walked and CC letters of support delivered
3. Mr. Sina offered to prepare an article on what the average person can do to promote conservation values for the EH News
4. Ms. Pagnano will prepare an article on the Oct Breast Cancer Awareness Challenge for the EH News. Discussion ensued on prizes for those who find all 4 of the signs on Town property. This may be based on the number of people who complete the challenge.
5. The article on the Town Beach property by Mr. Delventhal was published in the last Events magazine
6. Mr. Delventhal will prepare an article on dog safety after the unfortunate loss of a golden retriever at Hatch, with intent to publish in the spring or summer 2023.
7. Possible Eagle Scout projects were discussed including picnic tables, benches, or gazebo. Mr. Wilson will reach out to the dad who asked him for suggestions

iii. Climate resilience - Mr. Olin - Mr. Olin was absent from the meeting, however there was discussion of a request for input from someone who lives on the Salmon River, where State removal of 11' of a dam 42 years ago has lead to accumulation of sediment on his property.

b. Liaison Reports

i. IWWC updates – Mr. Delventhal - Mr. Gillis attended remotely as a sub although the transmission was garbled. Discussions included a drainage easement on Tater Hill and enlarging an existing dock on Lake Hayward
ii. P&Z updates – Mr. Gillis- Boho Farms has requested permission to run seasonal events, goat yoga, birthday parties at their farm on Tater Hill. There was also discussion of allowing campgrounds in zoned residential areas.
iii. Open Space updates – Mr. Delventhal - No meeting this month. Mr. Wilson will forward the letters of support for North Moodus Road and Honey Hill Farm properties to the CC.
iv. Eightmile Committee updates – Mr. Gillis- Attended the Haddam Neck Festival with Pat Young.

b. Planting/existing garden updates – Mr. Wilson
    i. Plants were watered at Urbanik, Harris, and Patrell through the drought period
    ii. Elderberries will be planted at Patrell in Sept
    iii. Discussion ensued on where to plant the 40 donated hazelnut shrubs. Urbanik, Lefebrve, Patrell, and Harris were mentioned as possible sites.

c. Reserve Monitor discussion -Ms. Gelston - Wyatt Martin will be added as a Reserve Monitor for Town Beach. Mr. Wilson mentioned the letter on the possibility of a floating bridge, drafted by Ms. Gelston, was submitted to the State on Aug. 29

7. New Business

a. New bills

I. 3 - 8x10 photos for use at the Goodspeed airport festival, CVS, 11.97
ii. Chain saw chains, sharpening and fasteners, Shagbark, 78.89
iii. 250 Town Beach Maps and laminated signs, Essex Printing, 82.50
iv. EHCC Banner and 15 car signs, Lighthouse Printing, 87.00
v. 3 aluminum signs, Essex Design, 735.00
vi. Trail maps and laminate, Essex Printing, 1640.00

Motion to approve the bills: Mr. Gillis, Second: Ms. Pagnano. Brought to vote, passed unanimously.

8. Public Comment (can be submitted via email to: ccchair@easthaddam.org) - none

9. Next Meeting Tues Oct 4, 2022, 7:00 pm, Room #1

10. Announcements and other discussion

a. Mr Wilson noted he has had discussions with people interested in working with the CC, and he is trying to get them recruited as Reserve Monitors

b. Mr. Wilson had a note from Ms. Zemenieski about possible grants being offered by the Rockfall Foundation. These usually range from 1-5,000. Mr. Sina suggested this could be used by the Eagle Scout candidate to support their project. Mr Wilson will provide that information to the dad who requested ideas for his son at the Goodspeed Airport festival.

c. Mr. Wilson noted 6 blue bird boxes were donated by Wendy McNeil, suggestions of where they could be placed included Hatch, Harris, Patrell, and Gelston Easement. This would be a good project for younger Scouts, although they have not responded to previous requests for feedback.

11. Adjournment

a. Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Delventhal, Second: Mr. Myers. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Wilson, Chair,

East Haddam Conservation Commission