

**East Haddam  
Conservation Commission**

March 3, 2020

Adopted May 11, 2020

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 7:34 PM at the Municipal Office Building. The Chairperson being in the Chair and the Secretary being present.

a. Roll Call

Marilyn Gleeson, Bernie Gillis, Thom Delventhal, Charlotte Gelston, John Olin

2. Appointment of Alternates

Mr. Delventhal appointed as full voting member for Mr. Wilson. Mr. Olin appointed as full voting member for Ms. Merrow.

3. Approval of Agenda

Add Map Reprints and letter to Joe Zaid

Motion by Mr. Delventhal to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Mr. Gillis and unanimously approved.

4. Approval of Conservation Commission Minutes for 2/4/20

6.c. Remove for.

Motion by Ms. Gelston to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Mr. Delventhal and unanimously approved.

5. Old Business

a. Subcommittee updates

Stewardship and Forestry Management sub-committee: Mr. Gillis noted that at the last work party, the focus was marking the boundaries on the southern border of Shugrue. He also went to Sabine and was disappointed in the use of Sabine; he spent 2.5 hours out there and cut many trees on the red and blue trails. There is quite a bit of washout at the parking lot and there is more work to do to address the downed trees. Mr. Gillis noted that Mr. Smith asked him to install a kiosk; Mr. Gillis discussed the need for drainage work as there is quite a bit of erosion. It is not used much likely due to it's at the end of a dead end street with a very small parking lot. Discussion ensued around what could be done to publicize the property more. Mr. Gillis noted that there needs to be additional work to shore up the bridge a bit more. For the map, Mr. Gillis provided Ms. Gleeson the size of the kiosk for her to order the map, the rules and the descriptions (all will be laminated). Ms. Gleeson and Mr. Gillis will discuss the moisture issue that is collecting on the kiosks to see if there is a way to address. Mr. Gillis visited Patrell and visited the orange and red trails. Those trails get tons of use, which is great to note. He addressed about a dozen trees that needed to be dealt with. There is a big tree that needs to be addressed, but Mr. Gillis would like to have another person with him when he is working on the tree.

Mr. Gillis has built 2 kiosks and will install one at Shugrue and one at Roaring Brook. Ms. Gleeson suggested that Roaring Brook is more important due to it being a property that the Town received a state grant for and posting a sign that states all the details is important. Ms. Gleeson noted that she has GPSed one of the 2 trails. Mr. Olin and Mr. Delventhal offered to help Mr. Gillis install the kiosk; Mr. Gillis will reach out to them to coordinate a date.

Outreach and Promotion: Nothing to note.

Volunteer Activism: Nothing to note.

b. IWWC and P&Z updates

IWWC – Neptune Ave. bridge is being replaced; there will be a site walk of the area. There is also work to address the erosion on the Moodus Reservoir causeway.

P&Z – Nothing pertinent to the CC.

c. Update on Eagle Scout project(s)

Nathan Botting, who constructed the trail at the Middle School, asked for 2 map holders that Mr. Gillis provided to him.

Ms. Gleeson provided an update to the CC on an email from Ethan Kerr. He conducted a bake sale and raised \$350 and also conducted a GoFundMe campaign as well as sold other items; he feels that he will raise more funds than needed for his project. He also provided Ms. Gleeson his GoFundMe page; Ms. Gleeson will provide to Ms. Goyette who will provide to the CC members.

d. Update on CC member recommendations to BoS

The Board of Selectmen accepted the CC recommendation to appoint Mr. Olin to the CC as an alternate member.

e. CLCC attendees and conference

Mr. Delventhal wanted to attend but cannot due to a trip he is taking. Mr. Gillis, Mr. Olin and Ms. Gleeson are all attending. Ms. Gleeson will provide specifics via an email to those going.

f. Plan of Conservation and Development/CC Assignments

Tabled as Mr. Wilson was unable to attend.

6. New Business

a. New bills

\$ 285.10 Forestry suppliers for paint  
\$159.33 Shagbark stewardship supplies  
\$33.87 Shagbark stewardship supplied

Motion by Mr. Delventhal to pay the bills as noted. Second by Ms. Gelston and unanimously approved.

b. Public Comment

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No public attended this meeting.

c. Map Reprints

Ms. Gleeson received an update from Ms. Gelston on the maps needed. Ms. Gleeson will get an estimate for another printing and discuss at the next meeting.

d. Letter to Joe Zaid

Ms. Merrow provided the letter to Ms. Gleeson, who read it to the CC, and requested that everyone sign the letter. Mr. Delventhal asked that 1 word be added; the other CC members agreed. Ms. Goyette added the word and will reprint the letter for the next meeting. At the April meeting, hopefully all members will attend to sign the letter.

7. Next meeting – April 7, at Meeting Room #1, Municipal Office Building.

8. Announcements and other discussion

Ms. Gleeson noted that there is an opening for Mr. Delventhal to move into a regular member spot. Mr. Gillis and Mr. Olin discussed the orange trail and a bit of an area of confusion that needs to be addressed.

There was discussion around ways to support volunteers who can walk the trails and provide feedback on the condition of the trail. EHLT has established a trail monitor program that the CC may want to follow. Discussion ensued as to what that would look like and a possible name for it within the CC. Mr. Delventhal suggested “Eye on the Trail” as an option. “Trail Watcher” was also mentioned. It will be discussed at the next meeting. Ms. Gleeson will also follow up with Linda Z about the possibility of the new website providing an email address for the CC.

Mr. Gillis asked about the IBAs and for information on the properties that are within IBAs. Ms. Gleeson will provide the IBA map.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Gelston to adjourn. Second by Mr. Delventhal and unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shannon A. Goyette  
Recording Secretary