East Haddam
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Municipal Office Building Room #1
Adopted April 5, 2023

1. Call to order – Called to order at 7:01 p.m.
   In attendance: Gary Wilson, Joe Sina, Cameron Beard (departed 7:50 p.m.), Thom Delventhal, John Olin, and Charlotte Gelston (arrived 7:08 p.m.).

   Absent: Bernie Gillis, Susan Pagnano, and Charlie Myers (resigning).

2. Alternate appointments (if necessary). Mr. Beard and Mrs. Gelston were appointed.

3. Approval of agenda
   Motion to approve the agenda.
   Delventhal/Olin Passed Unanimously

4. Approval of Conservation Commission minutes February 7, 2023.
   Motion to approve the minutes with the following correction:
   -Spelling/clerical errors.
   -Page 2, iii, item 2, delete "presented by" and replace with "communicated with".
   Sina/Delventhal Passed Unanimously

5. Old business
   a. Subcommittee updates
   i. Stewardship & Forestry Management – Mr. Gillis

Mr. Gillis provided an email update. Many trails were walked, and hazardous/fallen trees were cleared. Mr. Gillis suggested a bog bridge at Lena's northeast corner. Sabine's footbridge on the white trail was repaired. Trees were tagged on the perimeter of Hayward. Foot bridge on the blue trail south of parking lot was constructed at Lefebvre. Mr. Wilson added an ash tree needed clearing at the Patrell handicap trail. Mr. Wilson shared the meeting he attended in February in Lyme about forest management.

   ii. Outreach & Promotion – Mr. Wilson
   -Events Magazine-Future article about safety precautions when taking dogs out on trails.
   -Mr. Wilson and Mr. Olin will attend the CLCC meeting on March 25th.
   -Mr. Wilson has invited a State Forester to review town properties for harvestable timber or firewood.
   -Development of a forest management plan was discussed.

   Motion to reimburse Mr. Delventhal $80.00 for a CLCC Watercourses class.

Sina/Beard

-Commission members will have a table at the Machimoodus Spring Fling on March 19th 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

iii. Climate Resilience –Mr. Olin

CIRCA (Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Adaptation) modeling of Succor Brook Watershed has been completed and will be made available this week.
-CIRCA vulnerability assessments of temperature and participation flooding for the Town of East Haddam are now available. Mr. Olin will bring copies to the next meeting.
-Mr. Olin shared the development of a community resilience building workshop program through the Nature Conservancy. A statement of findings will be provided when available.
-CIRCA is meeting with River Cog on March 15th to determine a category for East Haddam (resiliency opportunity area).

b. Liaison Reports

i. IWWC updates – Mr. Delventhal. Docks for float planes are being installed at the Goodspeed Airport. There will be a field walk on Sunday to review proposed bike paths at the middle school, and a parking lot at Chapman Pond. The access road at Chapman Pond is being redirected with berms to avoid wet areas. Streams are also being redirected in the East Haddam Colchester Turnpike area.
ii. P&Z updates – Mr. Gillis- Commission approved a conversion of a seasonal cottage to year-round at Lake Hayward.
iii. Open Space updates – Mr. Delventhal –Nothing new to report.
iv. Eightmile Committee updates – Mr. Gillis- Newsletter by Eightmile and Pat Young was mailed.

c. Planting/existing garden updates – Mr. Wilson -Nothing new to report.

d. Reserve Monitor discussion -Ms. Gelston-There was nothing new to report.

6. New Business

a. New bills

-$37.99 to Ganos for a brush knife.
Motion to approve the bill as presented.
Delventhal/Gelston Passed unanimously.

7. Public Comment (can be submitted via email to: ccchair@easthaddam.org)

-David Carbo from the Nature Conservancy asked that the Chapman Pond parking area be moved, given the continued drainage and rut problems. He requested the parking area to accommodate at least four vehicles. Mr. Delventhal noted the IWWC was scheduled for a field walk there this weekend.

-Ben Prince would like to work with the Commission for an Eagle Scout project. Ideas were discussed and the Commission will invite Mr. Prince to attend the April 4th meeting for a formal presentation.

8. Next Meeting Tuesday April 4, 2023, 7:00 pm, Room #1

9. Announcements and other discussion

Mrs. Gelston shared that a purple trail was added to the Gelston Easement. She advised against walking it during wet conditions. She added that a bog bridge would need to be horse safe or located to the side.

10. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 7:56 p.m.
Sina/Gelston Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

E. Ruth Ziobron
Recording Secretary