East Haddam
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2023
Municipal Office Building Room #1
Adopted June 6, 2023

1. Call to order – Called to order at 7:00 p.m.
   In attendance: Gary Wilson, Joe Sina, Cameron Beard, Thom Delventhal (arrived 7:20), Bernie Gillis (arrived 7:02), Susan Pagnano, Ben Prince-Eagle Scout, Jim Prince and Ruth Ziobron.

   Absent: John Olin and Charlotte Gelston

2. Alternate appointments (if necessary)-Mr. Beard was appointed.

3. Approval of agenda
   Motion to approve the agenda adding Roger Stroud (Machimoodus Cartoonist) under Announcements and other discussion and the Lake Hayward Preserve Conservation Subdivision proposal to be discussed during IWWC.

   Sina/Pagnano Passed Unanimously

4. Approval of Conservation Commission minutes April 4, 2023.
   Motion to approve the minutes as presented.
   Gillis/Pagnano Passed Unanimously

5. New Business (a) – Ben Prince, Eagle Scout Candidate
   Ben reviewed his Eagle Scout project at the Hayward property.
   -Build a nature trail.
   -The Scout Troup Committee approved the project.
   -Kiosk with points of interest. Location and construction were discussed.
   -Possible bog bridge using 2 logs split in half with slashes on it.
   -Proposed work will start June/early July.
   -Trail marking techniques were discussed.
   -Work will be coordinated with Mr. Gillis.

   Motion to approve Ben Prince's Eagle Scout project at the Hayward property.
   Pagnano/Gillis Passed Unanimously

6. Old business
   a. Subcommittee updates

   i. Stewardship & Forestry Management – Mr. Gillis

-Many trails were walked, hazardous/fallen trees were cleared.
-New birdhouses were installed at many trails.
-There was a work party at the Patrell Property. A fuel tank and 18 tires were removed.
-New directional post was installed at the Shagrue Farm Reserve.
-A new trail is being built at Burnham Brook.
-The Hayward Preserve sign is ready.
-Mr. Gillis has all trails loaded on the Avenza software to use from his phone. The program puts a blue dot where you are on the property and helps verify property lines.
-Steel stakes for marking boundaries will be ordered from Shagbark.

The Town Attorney is reviewing the town's liability if warning signs alerting people to dead trees were to be installed.

ii. Outreach & Promotion – Mr. Wilson

- Commission members discussed Paul Coburn's presentation about living with CT wildlife on May 1st and decided to publish an article in the EH News highlighting the presentation.
-EH News published John Olin's article about Climate Resiliency.

iii. Climate Resilience –Mr. Olin-Mr. Wilson Reported

-Mr. Wilson shared attendance of the Nature Conservancy's resilience building workshop on April 25th.

b. Liaison Reports

i. IWWC updates – Mr. Delventhal reviewed the Lake Hayward Preserve Conservation Subdivision proposal for commission input.
   - Will the open space land be deeded to the town, or will it be an easement?
   - How much land will be put into open space.
   - Homeowners should not be able to cut down the trees in the open space.
   - Will there be easement restrictions?
   - If Mr. Delventhal is unable to attend the field walk, may a commission member attend in his place?
   - Will the lots be clear cut?
   - Who will enforce the easements?
   - Would there be space for trails?

ii. P&Z updates – Mr. Gillis- There were revisions made to the Gateway Community Standards and a few Home Occupations applications were approved.

iii. Open Space updates – Mr. Delventhal –Nothing new to report.

iv. Eightmile Committee updates – Mr. Gillis- The Chapman Pond parking lot is being redone.

c. Planting/existing garden updates – Mr. Wilson -Approximately 30 hazelnuts have growth for transplanting when the weather is drier.

d. Reserve Monitor Discussion -Ms. Gelston-Mr. Wilson reported Susan Kinsman's work at the pollinator garden and Lefebvre. A work party will be organized to remove barbary at Lefebvre.
-Trail maps need to be revised/ordered.

7. New Business

a. New bills

-$161.57 to Shagbark dated 4/6/2023 for pressure treated wood and misc. supplies.

Motion to approve the bill as presented.

Sina/Delventhal Passed unanimously.

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

9. Next Meeting Tuesday June 6, 2023, 7:00 pm, Room #1

10. Announcements and other discussion

Roger Stroud (Machimoodus Cartoonist) had contacted Mr. Wilson saying he would like to donate his services to donate his trademarked figures/cartoons to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Stroud will be invited to the next meeting. The Commission will research if a written agreement is needed and discuss it with the First Selectman.

Mrs. Pagnano suggested a grate over a drainpipe at the Urbanik Reserve.

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Gillis/Delventhal Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

E. Ruth Ziobron
Recording Secretary