East Haddam
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, July 5, 2023
Municipal Office Building Room #1

1. Call to order – Called to order at 7:00 p.m.
   In attendance: Gary Wilson, Joe Sina, Cameron Beard, Bernie Gillis (YouTube Live), John Olin, and Ruth Ziobron.

   Absent: Charlotte Gelston, Thom Delventhal, Susan Pagnano, and Alan Ponanski.

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

3. Welcome to guests and new members.

4. Approval of agenda
   Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
   Olin/Sina Passed Unanimously

5. Approval of Conservation Commission minutes June 6, 2023.
   Motion to approve the meeting minutes**.**
   -Correct spelling of Kronberg under Open Space updates.
   Olin/Sina Passed Unanimously

6. Old business
   a. Subcommittee updates

i. Stewardship & Forestry Management – Mr. Gillis

- Lord Wellington red trail was established. Kiosk to be installed. Maps are pending.
-Rose Farm bridge rail repaired.
-Commission members discussed taking stewardship of the Nichols Field Trails and will continue discussions with Lisa Conroy from Park and Rec, who agrees. She will discuss it with the Selectman and Public Works.
-Roaring Brook-bog bridge built.
-Rose Farm new maps were created and added to the kiosks.

ii. Outreach & Promotion – Mr. Wilson

- Article was published in the East Haddam News on June 22nd about being aware of turtles, particularly when they were crossing the road in the springtime.
-Mr. Delventhal submitted an article in the Event's Magazine about controlling your dogs on a leash when hiking trails.

-Mr. Sina and Ms. Pagnano are writing an article for the East Haddam News (August submittal) about how to live with wildlife.

iii. Climate Resilience –Mr. Olin

-Mr. Olin will publish an article in the East Haddam News and Events Magazine advertising a community meeting at the Grange on September 17th at 3 p.m.

-At the CIRCA meeting, a new Conservation Commission Fact Sheet was discussed.

-There will be a Resilience Workshop follow-up meeting on July 17th at 11 a.m. to discuss the summary of findings.

-Mr. Olin discussed the Sustainable CT grant received by the Boy scouts for a container at the transfer station.

-Mr. Olin has decided to print 3 copies of the summary of the findings report for the Landuse Office, Selectman's Office and Conservation Commission and not the $300.00 approved at the June 6th meeting.

-Updated documents may be located at the Town Website under "Town Resilience".

Motion to approve funding for printing the summary of findings report in an amount not to exceed $100.00.
Beard/Sina Passed unanimously.

b. Liaison Reports

i. IWWC Updates-Mr. Wilson reviewed an email from Mr. Delventhal with updates.
-Geographical Response Strategy-site survey was held on May 16th and 17th with a small group of experienced spill responders. The GRS survey revealed 2 sites impacting East Haddam, among other areas along the CT River. These were the Salmon River and Hamburg Cove (where the Eight Mile River drains into the CT River).
-East Shore/Lakeshore subdivision. Denied without prejudice. Applicant failed to provide drainage specs. They may submit new plans for review.
-East Haddam Fish and Game Club application for dredging was approved with conditions of monitoring the project by the Army Corps of Engineers and National Park Services.

ii. P&Z updates – Mr. Gillis
-The Redevelopment Agency has forwarded a development plan for the village area from Centerbridge Associates. The Planning and Zoning Commission will be reviewing the plan to determine if it complies with the Plan of Conservation and Development.

iii. Open Space updates – Mr. Wilson reviewed an email from Mr. Delventhal
-Current focus is to replenish funds for open space purchases.

iv. Eightmile Committee updates – Mr. Gillis- Nothing new to report.

c. Planting/existing garden updates – Mr. Wilson

-Only 1 hazelnut survived the May freeze, however Mr. Sina was able to obtain about 20 pots of hazelnuts from a friend that will replace the lost ones.

-Sour Wood Tree at the Patrell property has grown new growth.

d. Reserve Monitor Discussion -Ms. Gelston-Nothing new to report.

7. New Business

a. New bills

Motion to approve the bill(s) as presented:
-$42.00 to Shagbark for supplies.
Olin/Sina Passed unanimously.

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

10. Next Meeting Tuesday, August 1, 7:00 pm, Room #1.

11. Announcements and other discussion
- First Selectman Haines sees no issues with using Mr. Straub's Mac O'Moodus characters for promoting the Conservation Commission.
-Mr. Wilson reminded Commission Members that a new Chair would need to be elected in October when his term is over. Mr. Wilson does not plan on being Chair for another term and will remain on the Commission.

12. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 7:49 p.m.
Olin/Beard Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

E. Ruth Ziobron
Recording Secretary