East Haddam
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 3, 2022
Municipal Office Building Room #1

1. Call to order – called to order at 7:03
   In attendance: John Olin, Charlie Meyer, Charlotte Gelston, Bernie Gillis and Gary Wilson was dialed into the meeting.

2. Alternate appointments (if necessary)
   Alternates: Charlie Meyer appointed to vote for Thom Delventhal

   Motion to approve Joe Sina to the CC as an alternate for the Commission: John Olin, Second: Charlotte Gelston. Brought to vote, passed unanimously.

3. Welcome to new CC members and guests
   Guests: Jos Sina and Cameron Beard
   New Recording Secretary: Lenice Tripputi

4. Approval of agenda
   Motion to approve the Agenda: Charlotte Gelston, Second: John Olin. Brought to vote, passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Conservation Commission minutes Apr 5, 2022
   Motion to approve Minutes: No changes or additions other than formatting: John Olin, Second: Charlie Meyer. Brought to vote, passed unanimously.

6. New Business Part A

   Wyatt Martin and Jonas Delauro proposal for new trail (15 minutes)
   Did not show for the meeting. (Post meeting note: they had been given an incorrect date for the meeting).

7. Old business

   a. Subcommittee updates

i. Stewardship & Forestry Management – Mr. Gillis
Mr. Gillis installed a new lock on the CC shed at the old meeting house.
A downed tree at Roaring Brook was removed. This was called in by a Reserve Monitor.
Mr. Gillis blazed a bypass along the red trail at Gelston Easement due to mud.
A downed tree was removed from Rose Farm, as reported by a Reserve Monitor.
Ms. Pagnano and Mssrs. Delventhal and Gillis installed a new fence at the Gelston Easement.
The CC donated cedar posts to the Land Trust for Miller Preserve.
The IWWC is going to walk the Robbie Road property prior to installation of bog bridges.

ii. Outreach & Promotion – Mr. Wilson
1. StewardshipEvent-Sat.Apr23-Patrell- Event was well attended and people seemed to enjoy participating in the clean up.
2. Mr. Delventhal will write an article about the Stewardship event for the East Haddam News. CC should be thinking of next article for the quarterly Events magazine.

iii. Climate resilience - Mr. Olin. After talking with his contacts from CIRCA Mr. Olin suggested a forum to gather input from citizens is premature for late May, a general information meeting may be scheduled later in the summer.

b. Liaison Reports

i. IWWC updates – Mr. Delventhal -Mr. Delventhal was absent so no report
ii. P&Z updates – Mr. Gillis reported that an 11 lot subdivision is coming under discussion for East Shore Drive around Lake Hayward.
iii. Open Space updates – Mr. Delventhal -Mr. Delventhal was absent so no report
iv. Eightmile Committee updates – Mr. Gillis reported the group has moved into the Burnham Brook property. He also wants to meet with the Nature Conservancy rep about joining their Burnham Brook Preserve to the Town's Lefebrve Reserve.

c. Planting/existing garden updates – Mr. Wilson

No plants lost over the winter. Few more plants are needed for the trail. They were in the plans but were not available. This includes Great Rose Bay Rhododendron. They will grow to 10-15 feet tall, are approximately $40 each. Looking to purchase four from an organization in Massachusetts. If there is agreement, Mr. Wilson will make arrangements to go and pick them up. There was a mail order for the Bayberry seedlings and they came the end of March when the ground was still frozen. Altho potted up shortly after thaw, Mr. Wilson doesn't believe that they will make it. May need to go back for replacement or credit.

i. Proposal for Patrell privacy screen by Chris VanDerStad (11 Baker Ln)
Email from Chris VanDerStad. Love the improvements and area looks great. Wondering if the CC would be open to install some privacy trees along the split rail fence. Increase of usage and exploring options for some privacy. Also noted that there are dogs off the leash running into the yard to investigate. They are willing to share in the expense. Mr. Wilson believes that there should be a mix including evergreens and flowering bushes and states that if there is no objection then he would like to meet with Mr. and Mrs. VanDerStad to discuss what they might be looking for and to what extent they are willing to contribute.

Ms. Gelston believes that it would be beneficial to work with Mr. and Mrs. VanDerStad.

Mr. Wilson also indicates that he would like to speak with Mr. Gillis regarding the mowing at the triangle. Mr. Gillis believes twice a year on the mowing would be good. Mr. Wilson suggested that leaving the center of the ADH triangle leaving grass to grow in the middle and mow the perimeter.

Mr. Wilson also suggest that if there is an agreement with the planting of the trees/bushes that a request would be made that Mr. and Mrs. VanDerStand be responsible for mowing the grass in between the trees until they are grown out.

d. Reserve Monitor discussion, Ms. Gelston

Ms. Gelston reports that there has been nothing new since her last report.

A discussion ensued regarding the brochures. Ms. Gelston reports that she just filled the slots at the Town Hall and indicates that the Land Trust needs to fill up theirs. Mr. Wilson would also like to keep a tally so it is known when to have additional brochures printed.

Mr. Wilson also discusses the need to get the maps printed. Ms. Gelston reports that there are still plenty of maps. Mr. Gillis requests that she keep track and let the CC know when they are low. Mr. Wilson will check with Essex printing to find out if they keep the maps on file or if it needs to be supplied each time.

8. New Business Part B

a. New bills

Ms. Gelston has a new bill from the workday from Hadlyme Country Market totaling $178.71. She charged on her Visa.

Mr. Wilson has two bills from the workday; $51.64 from Lowes for 2 - 10" folding saws and Ocean State Job Lot for work gloves, insect repellant, bandages, sterile pads, gauze wrap and hand sanitizer totaling $41.14. The remainder of the unused items will go into the shed.

Mr. Gillis purchased from Shagbark 1 4½" Headlock Fastener 50 pack, 1 CDHD Barrel Bolt and 1 Gallon 50 to 1 small engine fuel $74.47.

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

b. New application for commission member

Discussion already ensued regarding the application for the new member, Dr. Sina. This will be brought to the First Selectman.

c. Trail creation training proposed by Economic Development Commission

Mr. Wilson received a document regarding trail creation training proposed by the Economic Development Commission. Appears that the Economic Development Commission, Connecticut Landmarks and The National Park Service are getting together on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at the Grange Hall. Looks like they have a trail from Chester up to the Swing Bridge, up 82, down 82 towards Wolf's Den Campground, take a left down to Chapman Pond and follow that road down to the ferry landing below Gillette Castle. Long route with no place to pull off, bicycle path or hiking path. Would be interesting to hear what they have to say. Mr. Gillis indicates that he is attending the hearing.

Mr. Gillis indicates that he believes that the intention is to put in sidewalks from Shagbark to Ray of Light Farm and then include some trails and bike trails that come up to the ferry and into Haddam.

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

e. Next meeting: Tue. June 7, 7:00 pm, Room #1

f. Announcements and other discussion

Wyatt Martin and Jonas Delauro did not show. Mr. Gillis indicated that he has maps of the town beach property that he was going to pass out. Describes the property as being off Mott Lane. Mr. Gillis reports that Mr. Martin and Mr. Delauro would like to put in a trail in memory of their classmate that passed away in a car accident this past summer. Mr. Ventres walked it and thought it could work. There would be a

parking lot off Mott Lane. The trail would be a big loop. The stretch lower left-hand side of the map is already a trail. The rectangle section on the map is the Moodus Sportsman Club.

Mr. Wilson will reach out to Mr. Martin and Mr. Delauro to see if they would come for the June meeting for their presentation.

Mr. Wilson also reports that he received, at his request, the hours from all the members, and indicates that for the first quarter, the CC Commission has a total of 242 hours working on CC issues. On track for 1000 person hours for the year.

Mr. Wilson requests that the members continue to keep track of their time.

Open to the floor. Mr. Gillis inquired if there is anything for the Land Trust to report. A conversation ensued regarding Sukulsky's property on Robbie Road and waiting on the Wetlands Commission and the Board of Ed approval.

In addition, there was a discussion that ensued about the 68 acre property on Honey Hill Road.

g. Adjournment at 8:08

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Gillis, Second: Ms. Gelston. Brought to vote, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lenice Tripputi, Recording Secretary
East Haddam Conservation Commission