

NORTH STONINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**January 19, 2023 @ 6:00pm
Old High School Media Center
Regular Meeting**

Minutes

Call to order: 6:00 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Bill Ricker, Steve Colgan, Arnie Vleiks, Bob Deguorse, Doug Farrand, Will Raggon

Regrets: Jason Mancini

Minutes of November, 2022 Meeting: accepted as written

Guest: Elaine Caldarone, Pawcatuck Wild & Scenic River representative from North Stonington
Lee Winacor

Citizen Comments: none

Old Business:

- Calendar sales – Bill. Ongoing. Approximately \$720 in sales completed so far. Eight copies have been given to the Historical Society (2 pro bono), 2 copies have been given to the library, 1 each given to First Selectman and the new Superintendent of Schools, 5 to be saved for P&Z to be given to new business prospects.
 - 2024 theme
 - Town events (fair, parade, Tree lighting, bonfire, etc) – this theme was chosen
 - Superintendent's policy on publishing children's pictures.
- Status of Fire Fly Farm LLC monitoring.
 - Bill – CT Attorney General provided written documentation the commission no longer needs to observe special monitoring procedures for this easement. Now can follow procedure for other easements.
- Bike trail mapping
 - Steve. This work is slowly progressing. Mike Carroll rode more of the trails over his Christmas college break to log mileage, elevation and level of difficulty.
- Wintechog Hill Preserve decision by Planning & Zoning
 - Bill – P&Z declined to endorse pursuit of property sale.
- The 2023 POCD: continued Conservation & Recreation chapter work – All
 - Juliet Hodge will guide the process
 - Monthly meetings to be held to prepare plan with focus groups being formed in 7 areas of town to hold community forums.
 - Properties continue to be identified for "like to acquire" list.
- Wild & Scenic Grant application has been submitted -Bill
- Review of 2023-2024 goals & objectives -
 - Many of same goals from 2022 remain and continue for 2023.
 - Remove road race.
 - Ongoing commitment to lead hike on CT trails day
 - 5-year goal: work to develop a universally accessible trail.

New Business:

- Elaine Calderone, W&S River representative from NoSto - Provided an overview of the Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic River organization and their activities.
- Kimberly Bradley from DEEP sent us the application form for possible DEEP grant. – Bill
- Quarterly article – Bill: Summarized last year's work and goals
- Budget submission – Bill: same request as 2022 of \$2175. Returned unused 2022 funds to town.
- POCD planning – update - all

Correspondence: The letter to Bearn trust on 4-Wyassup Rd properties resent. CT DEEP Land Acquisition Fund department contacted for their possible interest.

Handouts:

- Elizabeth Caldaronone handed out a contact card, W&S caps as well as a small info card on the Wood - Pawcatuck watershed recreation areas.
- Bill provided a copy of 2022 commission goals as reference.

Handouts: none

Adjournment: 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by Doug Farrand, CC secretary