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Call to Order

Present: Bill Dyer, Vice-Chairman
        Jim Tate, Commissioner
        Joe Welsh, Commissioner
        Sheryl Dutkanicz, Commissioner
        Jim Goodman, Commissioner
        Ed McCreery, Commissioner

Also
Present: Teresa Gallagher, Conservation Agent
         Marianne Chaya, Clerk
         Terrance Gallagher, Trails Committee

A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairman Dyer called the meeting of the Conservation Commission to order
at 7:00 p.m. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Dutkanicz MOVED to approve the minutes from the May 2,
2012 Regular meeting. SECONDED by Commissioner Goodman. All were
in favor, MOTION PASSED.
C. Public Portion (items not on agenda)

Gabriel Brown, Boy Scout-Troop 55
Gabriel stated that he is here to present his proposal for his Eagle Scout project, which is a bridge at Hope Lake at the main trail to the island. The island is a very good fishing spot. Gabriel presented a photo display of the area and drawings of the proposed bridge. He said he would be using the rainbow bridge design with a 30’-35’ span. Gabriel discussed the details of the design to the Commissioners. The width is going to be about 3-4’.

The Commissioners and Gabriel discussed the terrain, which is rather rugged and not wheelchair accessible. Gabriel also talked about doing some clearing up to the bridge.

Commissioner Tate asked about the hand-railing and suggested that Gabriel run the design by the building inspector just to make sure he was on board with it as well.

Agent Gallagher talked about the area in that in the summer it is very dry so that you could walk out there without getting your feet wet. In the past she has seen carnivorous plants called sun dew. They should be right around where you are going to be putting the bridge.

Vice-Chairman Dyer said that once the Conservation Commission approves the bridge Gabriel will have to present the project to the Inland Wetlands Commission at their next meeting, Thursday, June 14.

**Commissioner McCreery MOVED to approve the bridge design by Gabriel Brown for his Eagle Scout project. SECONDED by Commissioner Tate. A voice vote was taken, all were in favor; MOTION PASSED.**

Guy Beardsley, Shelton Farmers Market

Mr. Beardsley reported that tomorrow they will have a satellite market at Scinto’s King David fountain. Between 12-2 there will be free Italian Ice.

The opening date for the Farmers Market (downtown) will be June 16. There will be issues regarding the parking due to the construction materials from Avalon Bay taking up part of the parking lot.

Mr. Beardsley said he expects to have some reasonably good flower bouquets at the market this year.

He also said that due to the weather this spring it has impacted the produce. The soil temperature has reduced and all the rain we have had has affected the crops. If it continues it will be a problem especially with the tomatoes and potatoes.

Mr. Beardsley commented that a mountain lion has been sighted in White Hills at Beech Tree Hill Rd last week, as well as a bobcat.
There will be a Flag Day event run by the Shelton Economic Commission and the City at the Riverwalk on June 15th.

D. Shelton Lakes Recreation Path, upgrade to handicapped-accessible standards

Vice-Chairman Dyer said that there are still some issues to be resolved before the contractor gets the go-ahead to finish the final section. By next week it should be worked out and work should be starting.

We did have the hike event for National Trails Day on the Rec Path. The hike took place on Sunday, and the trail was in very good shape, even after all the rain. Credit for that is due to the excellent drainage system.

The hiking event, held on the rain date, had about 26 people participate.

E. Trails Committee Report

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that 10 granite pillars were installed in various places. We still have a few pillars left to be installed once the final phase is finished at Oak Valley.

The Trails Committee will go out and determine where the removable bollards should be installed.

The Paugusset Trail is now complete (clearing and marking) from Indian Well to John Dominick Dr.

They will now look to extend the trail down to Bridgeport Ave (northeast corner of Bridgeport Ave. and Mill St).

Vice-Chairman Dyer stated that one of the Trail Committee members moved to Monroe so they are looking for a new member. We do have 2 potential members that we will be considering, which would bring them up to 8.

There are 2 receipts for reimbursement for Richard and Terry.

Commissioner McCreery MOVED to reimburse Richard Skudlarek for gas for the gator and power tools in the amount of $31.99. SECONDED by Commissioner Goodman. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

Commissioner McCreery MOVED to reimburse Terry Gallagher for battery packs in the amount of $177.00. We have an open purchase order from Home Depot for purchases over $100. SECONDED by Commissioner Dutkanicz. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

Commissioner McCreery MOVED to approve payment to James Tyler Tate for the installation of the granite bollards in the amount of $125.00. SECONDED by Commissioner Dutkanicz. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.
F. Open Space Trust Account
No update.

G. Budget Status
Agent Gallagher presented the most recent budget report (thru May 30). The Commissioners talked about the current status and what they anticipate returning to the general fund.

H. Open Space set-aside
No action.

I. Review of PZC or IWC Applications for Subdivisions and/or Developments

1. Old Applications/Monitor/ Follow-up
None

2. New Applications (Applications received between agenda creation and our Regular Meeting may be amended to this Agenda at start of regular meetings by a vote from the Commission.)
None

J. Communications
HVA membership renewal.

Commissioner Tate MOVED to approve payment of $100 to HVA for the annual membership renewal. SECONDED by Commissioner Welsh. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

K. Quality of Life – Executive Session (land acquisition and security issues)
Commissioner Tate MOVED, at 7:50 P.M. to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing security issues and possible land acquisitions. SECONDED by Commissioner McCreery. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.

Commissioner Goodman MOVED to return to Regular Session at 8:15 PM. SECONDED by Commissioner McCreery. All were in favor; MOTION PASSED.
Vice-Chairman Dyer stated that no motions were made in Executive Session.

During Executive Session they were reminded of the ATV activity reported on French’s Hill and open space encroachment. Agent Gallagher has been directed to take the appropriate enforcement action and monitor it as closely as possible.

L. Comments by members
Commissioner Tate commented that Team Conservation at the local Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce came in 1st! This was due to the special efforts of Al Tyma who substituted for Tom Harbinson.

M. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.
The next regular meeting is Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Chaya
Clerk, Conservation Commission