CITY OF SHELTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes for the Regular Meeting on Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.
Minutes should be considered a draft version until approved by CC at their next meeting.

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Present:  Tom Harbinson, Chairman
Bill Dyer, Vice-Chairman
Jim Tate, Commissioner
Sheri Dutkanicz, Commissioner
Teresa Gallagher, Conservation Agent

Also Present:  Helen Solotruk, Conservation Clerk

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CC minutes, submitted via tcoffice@cityofshelton.org email to City Clerk for legal posting requirements.
Tape recording of meeting available at City Clerk’s office.
A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman Harbinson called the meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:05 p.m. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Tate, to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2014 meeting. Vote – All in favor. MOTION PASSED.

C. Public Portion (Items Not on Agenda)
Chairman Harbinson introduced Mark Sullivan, 46 Ten Coat Lane, who is an Eagle Scout that has planned a project and would like approval from the Conservation Commission. Mark described the kiosk he plans to build for Buddington Road which will be located next to the power lines. Discussion of materials that will be used and how it will be constructed. Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Trails Committee voted unanimously to approve this project. A motion was made by Chairman Harbinson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dyer, to approve the Eagle Scout project as presented to the Conservation Commission this evening and authorize Vice-Chairman Dyer and the Trails Committee to work with the Eagle Scout in terms of it’s installation and any details that are site specific aspects. Vote – All in favor. MOTION PASSED. Discussion of the Capstone Project now required at Shelton High School which consists of students volunteering and how this can benefit the Trails Committee with various projects and trail maintenance.

D. Trails Committee Report
Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there were two hikes on Trails Day. One was the Rec Path which was poorly attended and the other was at the Intermediate School to Buddington which approximately 30 people attended. Discussion. Vice-Chairman Dyer contacted UI regarding the ruts in the property from the trucks from Constitution Boulevard to the Wicek property and UI has agreed to repair this property. Vice-Chairman Dyer discussed trail relocation for DEEP grants. Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Trail Committee accepted the resignation of Sheri Dutkanicz from the Trails Committee.
Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there will be one work party for the month of July to repair/replace the fence rails at Hope Lake and to re-install the bench permanently.

Vice-Chairman Dyer suggested the idea of making a trail from the corner of Constitution Boulevard and Route 108 (across from the Dog Park) to the Intermediate School parking lot in order for hikers to stay off the main road to get back to their cars. Discussion. Vice-Chairman Dyer will set up a meeting with the Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr, to discuss this further.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the battery for the Gator has been replaced and gas has been purchased and he has a receipt for reimbursement in the amount of $52.09. **A motion was made by Commissioner Tate, seconded by Commissioner Dutkanicz, to reimburse this expense. Vote – All in favor. MOTION PASSED.**

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there are 3 Eagle Scout projects currently underway:
- Mark Sullivan – building a kiosk on Buddington Road
- Luke Claire – making trail to pond near Pine Tree Hill Road
- Anthony Savarese – improving/working on the Birchbank Trail

Discussion. Commissioner Tate suggested the need for bollards to be installed at the Riverwalk and Phase 2 of the Riverwalk. Discussion of putting the Shelton logo on the bollards with the words “Shelton Riverwalk”. Discussion of the correct usage of the logo. Discussion of what type of bollards to purchase and how to install the bollards correctly.

**E. Open Space Trust Account Status**

No Report.

**F. Budget Status**

Chairman Harbinson reported that the new fiscal year has begun as of July 1st. Chairman Harbinson reported that the budget for the current fiscal year is $5,000.00 less than the Committee requested. Discussion.
G. Review of PZC or IWC Applications for Subdivisions and/or Developments

1. Old Applications/Monitor/Follow-up
   i. Hawk’s Ridge PZC #13-17, Long Hill Cross Road and Beard Sawmill Road, PDD Preliminary/Conceptual Plans dated 12/3/2013 for 54 single family units, 57 multi-family units and 196 units within an assisted living facility.

   No report.

2. New Applications
   i. Water’s Edge of Shelton PZC #14-8, 14-unit PDD on 3.1 acres at 500 River Road on the Housatonic River including a marina with 6 slips. PZC public hearing scheduled for May 28th.

   No report.

H. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports – Conservation Agent

1. Deer Committee
   Discussion of sharpshooters.
   Conservation Agent Gallagher reported she attended the Deer Alliance June Quarterly meeting in Wilton.
   Conservation Agent Gallagher reported she has observed oak regeneration at Eklund Gardens inside the fence vs. outside the fence. Discussion. Conservation Agent Gallagher plans to conduct site inspections of some open space properties to see how oaks are regenerating there.

2. Community Gardens Committee
   Conservation Agent Gallagher would like to look into the Kestrel Nest Boxing Program for Klapick. Discussion.
   Conservation Agent Gallagher reported that she has created an access trail to woods from the garden compost pile through the Klapick pentway so open space users do not need to cross through the tall hayfield to get into the woods. Discussion.
   Conservation Agent Gallagher reported that she has signed off on the Eagle Scout project for a kiosk at Shelton Lakes Garden.
• **Eklund Garden**
  Conservation Agent Gallagher reported that reminders have been sent to gardeners about rules and various issues.
  Conservation Agent Gallagher reported she had spent a couple day at the garden weeding, fertilizing, staking, etc.

• **Dog Park Garden**
  No report.

3. **Anti-Litter Committee**
  No report.

### I. Communications (Sent or Received)
Conservation Agent Gallagher reported that CT Wildlife has reported that there is a declining population of spotted turtles. Discussion.
Chairman Harbinson reported a letter was sent to Rick Schultz – Planning and Zoning regarding Water’s Edge.
Chairman Harbinson reported a letter was sent ZBA regarding the setback on Princeton Drive.

### J. Grant Compliance Status for 7 DEEP Open Space Grants and 2 FRPP Agricultural PDR Grants – Conservation Agent
No report.

### K. Quality of Life – Executive Session (Land Acquisition and Security Issues)
A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Dutkanicz, to go into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss land acquisitions and security issues. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.

A motion was made by Chairman Harbinson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dyer, to end the Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Chairman Harbinson reported that no motions took place during Executive Session.
L. Comments By Members
Commissioner Dutkanicz reported that she has attended two lectures:
- Brown bats becoming extinct at White Memorial
- Falconer at the Audubon Society
Discussion.
Commissioner Tate discussed installing benches along the Riverwalk and other improvements in the future. Discussion.

M. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, August 6, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Solotruk
Clerk, Conservation Commission