CITY OF SHELTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes for the Regular Meeting on Wednesday, August 6, 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
Ed McCreery, Commissioner
Joe Walsh, Commissioner
Teresa Gallagher, Conservation Agent

Also Present: Terry Gallagher

**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 Chairman Harbinson, to approve the minutes from the July 2, 2014 meeting. Vote – All in favor. MOTION PASSED.

C. Public Portion (Items Not on Agenda)

Guy Beardsley discussed an issue at the Farmer's Market. An individual who is a masseuse wants to join the Farmer's Market. He submitted a letter to the Board of Alderman to be put on their agenda for the August meeting to ask for permission to do this. Discussion. From this point, no outside groups will be allowed to use the market. It will only be used by farmers and vendors who are members. Discussion.

Guy Beardsley reported that he has no idea that the license agreement he has with the City of Shelton states that only farmers and vendors from Shelton can participate in the Farmer's Market. Discussion. Attorney Welsh is looking into this agreement.

D. Trails Committee Report

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there was one work party held during the month of July. There were 13 fence rails repaired near Silent Water, cut down a tree hanging over the Rec Path and mowing at various areas. Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Gator was taken in for repairs and will be returned on August 7th. Discussion.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Trails Committee has plans to do the following in the near future:

- Complete the Paugussett Trail near Buddington
- Kiosk will be installed at the Buddington parking area
- Cement the bench at Silent Waters

Vice-Chairman Dyer discussed the area between the fence and the river that UI has said they would donate to the Land Trust near Far Mill River.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that a Moonlight Hike is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Trails Committee has reserved a table for Shelton Day which will be held on Sunday, October 4th. Discussion.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Boy Scout has cut the trail in from Beech Tree Hill Road into the little pond and he did a really nice job.
Terry Gallagher reported that a new trail is being made by the Long Hill Community Garden which is not being publicized right now because of some unique old archeological boulders uncovered. Discussion.

**E. Open Space Trust Account Status**

No Report.

**F. Budget Status**

No Report.

**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 as assisted living facility.

   No Report.

   ii. 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.

   Discussion of PDD’s and open space.

2. New Applications

No Report.

Chairman Harbinson requested that Conservation Agent Gallagher contact Richard Schultz, Planning & Zoning, to ask him to please communicate with the Conservation Commission on a regular basis. Discussion.
H. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports – Conservation Agent

1. Deer Committee
Chairman Harbinson reported that Conservation Agent Gallagher has handed out a summary of survey plots regarding oak regeneration. Discussion of a secured plot compared to a non-secured plot.
Discussion of the lack of sugar maple trees in the City.
Discussion of forestry management planning for the future.

2. Community Gardens Committee
Conservation Agent Gallagher discussed issues occurring with the people at the Community Gardens.
Conservation Agent Gallagher noted that there is a 1 year waiting list to get a spot at the Community Gardens.
Discussion of soil and the general areas of the Community Gardens.

- **Eklund Garden**
  No Report.

- **Dog Park Garden**
  No Report.

3. Anti-Litter Committee
Conservation Agent Gallagher discussed the issue of garbage on Pearmain Road. Justino’s Landscaping has adopted this road and has agreed to keep it clean.

I. Communications (Sent or Received)
Chairman Harbinson reported a letter was sent to the DEEP regarding the grant application that we submitted stating that we would like to withdraw the grant application at this time with the option to resubmit at a later date. Discussion.
J. Grant Compliance Status for 7 DEEP Open Space Grants and 2 FRPP Agricultural PDR Grants – Conservation Agent
Conservation Agent Teresa Gallagher reported she will be putting sign in sheets at the trail areas that are privately owned but where a trail is going through which will meet the DEEP requirements for compliance. Discussion.

K. Quality of Life – Executive Session (Land Acquisition and Security Issues)
A motion was made by Chairman Harbinson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dyer, to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. to discuss land acquisitions and security issues. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.

Tape 1, Side B

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 but a recommendation was made that he contact the property owner to further discuss our negotiation over acquisition of the parcel in terms of valuations. Chairman Harbinson will do this within the next week.

L. Comments By Members
No Report.

M. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, September 3, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Solotruk
Clerk, Conservation Commission