A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – 7:08 P.M.  

B. Approval of Minutes  

C. Public Portion (Items Not on Agenda)  

D. Trails Committee Report – Bill Dyer  

E. Open Space Trust Account Status  

F. Budget Status  

G. Review of PZC or IWC Applications for Subdivisions/Developments  
   1. Old Applications/Monitor/Follow Up  
      Water’s Edge of Shelton PZC #14-8, 14 unit PDD and 3.1 acres at 500 River Road on the Housatonic River including marina with 6 slips. MODIFICATION dated October 21, 2014 to allow for 3 additional units along the Housatonic River.  
   2. Pond Meadow PZC#14-20, 39 Shelton Rd, 20 condominiums on 2.1 acres, zone R-1. Public hearing to be continued January 13, 2015.  
   3. Perry Hill Estates, PZC#14-24, Perry Hill Road, 26 units on 12.6 acres. PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.  

   2. New Applications  
      1. 209 Birdseye Road, Project name Wabuda, 2 lots.  

I. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports – Conservation Agent  
   1. Deer Committee  
   2. Community Garden Committee  
   3. Anti-Litter Committee  

J. Communications (sent or received)  

K. Grant Compliance Status for Seven DEEP Open Space Grants & Two FRPP Agricultural PDR Grants – Update - Conservation Agent  

L. Quality of Life – Executive Session (Land Acquisition & Security Issues)  

M. Comments By Members  


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

Also Present: Terry Gallagher  

Absent: Ed McCreery, Commissioner  
Joe Walsh, Commissioner  

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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 7:08 p.m. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this time, Chairman Harbinson welcomed Cheryl Donarumo as the new clerk for the minutes and also noted that there was a vacancy on the commission due to a death of one of its members.

B. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Dutkanicz, seconded by Vice Chairman Dyer, to approve the minutes from the November 5, 2014 meeting. Vote – All in favor. MOTION PASSED.

C. Public Portion (Items Not on Agenda)

Guy Beardsley brought in Beardsley Orchards Cider Donuts for the Conservation Commission to sample. Guy reported that the license agreement for the Farmers’ Market is still waiting to be signed and he is not sure if he will sign it or not. The existing license is good till April of next year. Guy stated that they will be opening up their own farm stand next year in time of the season to start. Guy thanked the commission for their support and stated that the Beardsley trail that was rerouted looks great. Chairman Harbinson asked Guy if there would be any new crops for next year and Guy replied he had planted four new tomato plants (Plum Regal, Mountain Merit, Iron Lady and Defiant) this season and they went quite well and will plant them again for next year.

E. Trails Committee Report

Vice-Chairman Dyer asked if the guest speaker for Waters Edge (new application) would be attending the meeting. Conservation Agent Gallagher reported that he may not be able to attend tonight.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there were two trail parties. 1) They improved the trails around Eklund Garden and 2) They relocated the trail from Nicholdale to Pearmain to complete the DEEP grant requirements. Vice Chairman Dyer asked Conservation Agent Gallagher if the pictures were taken and sent to the CT DEEP. Conservation Agent Gallagher replied that she had taken the pictures, blazed the trail, and put signs up, but has not sent them to the DEEP yet due to the blazing that had to be done.
Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there were seven items on the priority list for the mayor where they need city staff assistance on the trails. He said that he spoke to Dean who will cut down the 2 trees that are hanging over Meadow Street.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the guided hike went well; there were approximately 18 people in various age groups and 6 dogs. There are no guided hikes scheduled for December.

Vice Chairman Dyer reported that they will be creating a loop path from the Rec path to Basil Brook on December 13th.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that they have tentatively scheduled January 18th for the Snow Shoe Hike but if there is too much snow, it may be cancelled. March 7th will be the Marshmallow March, February they may do something and National Trails Day is the 6th of June.

Vice-Chairman Dyer submitted expenses to the Conservation Commission for reimbursement. **Chairman Harbinson approved the $24.99 expense submitted by the Trails Committee for reimbursement, stating no motion was needed.**

Terry Gallagher, Trails Committee, announced that Conservation Agent Gallagher had saved metal stands found in the river, which he used for work party signs with the help of their daughter. They are planning on using them for various signs that are needed around the trails. This has saved the committee a lot of money instead of purchasing the store ones that were much more expensive.

**F. Open Space Trust Account Status**
No Updates.

**G. Budget Status**
Chairman Harbinson reported that they are well within the budget.

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

1. **Old Applications/Monitor/Follow-up**

   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. PDD #78 MODIFICATION dated October 21, 2014 to allow for 3 additional units along the Housatonic River. **Chairman Harbinson approved the $24.99 expense submitted by the Trails Committee for reimbursement, stating no motion was needed.**
Harbinson stated that this was approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The applicant was to attend the meeting tonight to discuss the conservation language etc. but he could not make it tonight.

ii Pond Meadow application has been withdrawn.

iii Perry Hill Estates: The public hearing was closed.

2. New Applications

i. Wabuda, 209 Birdseye Road (Re-Subdivision)

An original subdivision was done in 1969 but no open space was set aside at that time. This property is in the vicinity of a proposed loop trail as shown in the Open Space Plan. Chairman Harbinson stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission is asking for the Conservation Commission’s approval for the open space requirement to be waived on this. There is an existing two story house, garage and a shed with septic and well, but they will be removing the shed and garage on the existing property. It meets all the subdivision regulations, street frontage etc.

A motion was made by Chairman Harbinson and seconded by Commissioner Tate to send a letter to the Planning and Zoning Commission, stating that the request to waive the open space requirement is acceptable so long as the applicant retain the stone walls along Birdseye Road to the extent possible to retain the scenic character of the road, and where the wall must be removed for a driveway entrance, the stone be used to build a wall along the southern property line starting at Birdseye Road. Discussion. Vote – All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Conservation Agent Gallagher spoke about the Position Statement she drafted on the Use of Planned Development Districts. Commissioner Tate suggested a few changes. Conservation Agent Gallagher will make the changes requested and submit.

A motion to approve was made by Vice Chairman Dyer and second by Commissioner Dutkanicz. Vote: All in favor, MOTION PASSED.

I. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports – Conservation Agent

1. Deer Committee
   No Report.

2. Community Gardens Committee
3. **Anti-Litter Committee**
Conservation Agent Gallagher reported that she wrote a joint letter from the Conservation Committee and the Anti-Litter Committee to the Stratford Park and Recs Commission asking them for some trash receptacles over at Far Mill River Park because it is a Stratford town park. Conservation Agent Gallagher is waiting to hear back, she just mailed the letter.

**J. Communications (Sent or Received)**
Conservational Agent Gallagher stated that she has put signs up and sent letters out in regards to the Beardsley Trail grant compliance.

**Tape 1, Side B**

**K. Grant Compliance Status for 7 DEEP Open Space Grants and 2 FRPP Agricultural PDR Grants – Conservation Agent**
No Report.

**L. Quality of Life – Executive Session (Land Acquisition and Security Issues)**
No Report.

**M. Comments By Members**
Chairman Harbinson reported that Teresa has scheduled the Christmas Party for December 22nd.

**N. Adjournment**
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 7, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Donarumo
Clerk, Conservation Commission