## Call to Order

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

Also  
Present: Terry Gallagher, Trails Committee  
Helen Solotruk, Clerk  

**A. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – 7:00 P.M.**  
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 Welsh, to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2013 meeting. Vote – All in favor. MOTION PASSED.

C. Public Portion (Items Not on Agenda)

No Report.

D. Trails Committee Report

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there were many activities/projects completed by the Trails Committee and volunteers recently:

- Far Mill River Trail Clean-Up
- Improve the North End of the Paugussett Extension including Repair of the Stairs
- Removed the Decking from Hope Lake Bridge
- Supported CFPA in GPS of Paugussett Extension
- Replaced 10 Fence Rails on Silent Waters Dam
- Painted Red Barn
- Leaf Blowing on Rec Path

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that there were many volunteers at the work parties and the start time has been moved from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported the Trails Committee will be discussing what to do for the Trails Day Hike which is held on the 1st Saturday in June and will report back at the January meeting. Discussion.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that all members of the Trails Committee will be attending the City Christmas Party.

Vice-Chairman Dyer discussed having a Cross Country or Snowshoe Hike in January and the Marshmallow March will be held in either February or March.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that a work party will be meeting at Oak Valley Trail on Saturday, December 14th to clean-up and this will be the last work party for the year.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Gator is going to Martinka’s for repairs to the breaks and the other power equipment will all be serviced.

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that he received an invoice for paint for the Barn in the amount of $118.79 which needs to be paid. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Tate, to approve and pay this invoice. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.
Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that Eagle Scout, Wesley Sekelsky, raised funds for his projects on the Paugussett Trail. In the meantime, all of the materials needed for his project were donated to him and, therefore, he donated to the Conservation Commission the monies he collected in the amount of $373.55 to be used on future Eagle Scout projects. Discussion. **A motion was made by Commissioner Tate, seconded by Commissioner Dutkanicz, to receive the monies and deposit to the restricted account that the Conservation Commission has with a notation that it is to be used for future Eagle Scout projects and a letter of thanks be sent to Wesley to let him know that we will be using this money for future Eagle Scout projects. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.**

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Trails Committee would like to get T-shirts printed with all of the trails listed on it to be given to Committee members and volunteers who help with the work parties. Discussion.

**E. Meeting Dates for 2014**

Chairman Harbinson reported that the following will be meeting dates for 2014:

- January 8\textsuperscript{th}
- February 5\textsuperscript{th}
- March 5\textsuperscript{th}
- April 2\textsuperscript{nd}
- May 7\textsuperscript{th}
- June 4\textsuperscript{th}
- July 2\textsuperscript{nd}
- August 6\textsuperscript{th}
- September 3\textsuperscript{rd}
- October 1\textsuperscript{st}
- November 5\textsuperscript{th}
- December 3\textsuperscript{rd}

**A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Welsh, to approve these meeting dates for 2014. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.**

**F. Open Space Trust Account Status**

No Report.
G. Budget Status
Chairman Harbinson reported on the Conservation Commission budget status as of October 31, 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Amount</th>
<th>$65,991.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Budget Amount Used</td>
<td>10,552.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Amount Unused</td>
<td>$55,279.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Discussion.

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

1. Old Applications/Monitor/Follow-up
   None.

2. New Applications
   None.

I. Communications (Sent or Received)
Chairman Harbinson reported that we received a Wildlife Report – CFPA Run for the Woods Program. Discussion.
Chairman Harbinson reported that a letter was received from the DEP regarding dredging and filling being done at 145 Riverdale Avenue by A&A Brothers. Discussion.
Chairman Harbinson discussed the Shelton Life article regarding a Deer Committee that has been formed.
Chairman Harbinson reported that a letter was received from Singular Wireless stating that cell towers will be installed on Perry Hill Road. Discussion.

J. Quality of Life – Executive Session (Land Acquisition and Security Issues)
A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Welsh, to go into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss land acquisitions and security issues. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.

A motion was made by Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Welsh, to end the Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.
Chairman Harbinson reported that during Executive Session the Commission discussed a specific parcel of land where the property owner approached the Conservation Commission to see if the City of Shelton would have any interest in purchasing their property as open space. Discussion of quotes for an appraisal to a yellow book standard in anticipation of utilizing a grant to share in the cost of an acquisition. The quote received for an appraisal was $2,700.00. **A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Dyer, seconded by Commissioner Dutkanicz, to pursue the appraisal from this quote. Discussion. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.**

A motion was made by Commissioner McCreery, seconded by Commissioner Tate, to add an agenda item for discussion at the regular meeting regarding Blue Herring Cove Development located at 550 River Road. Vote – all in favor. **MOTION PASSED.** Discussion of Blue Herring Cove Development and the concerns the Conservation Commission have, as well as, their extreme disappointment that the river corridor was not protected as originally planned. Chairman Harbinson requested that Conservation Agent Gallagher will meet with Planning & Zoning Administrator, Rick Schultz, to go over the project with him to find out what exactly happened before any plan of action can be taken.

**K. Comments By Members**

Vice-Chairman Dyer reported that the Trails Committee is concerned about public safety when out on work parties along the trails. The Committee would like to purchase signs to be put up while working that state “Slow – Trail Work” to try to avoid any injuries or accidents. Discussion. Commissioner Dutkanicz reported that she attended a CACIWC Conference at a cost of $50.00. **A motion was made by Chairman Harbinson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Dyer, to reimburse Commissioner Dutkanicz for the Conference cost of $50.00. Vote – all in favor. MOTION PASSED.**

**L. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 8, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Solotruk
Clerk, Conservation Commission