City of Shelton Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes for
December 5, 2018

Members Present: Tom Harbinson, Bill Dyer, Jim Tate  Absent: Sheri Dutkanicz, Ed McCreery
Resigned: Allison Menendez.  Also present: Teresa Gallagher, Natural Resource Manager;
Terry Gallagher, Trails Committee.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Chairman Tom Harbinson who noted that with
the resignation of Allison Menendez and Joe Welsh, the commission is down to five members.
Therefore three members constitutes a quorum.

Public Portion: Elizabeth “Polly” Buckley introduced herself as the new CFPA Trail Manager
for the Paugussett Trail section south of Indian Well State Park.

Meeting Minutes:  Bill Dyer made a motion to approve the November 7, 2018
meeting minutes. Seconded by Jim Tate.  All were in favor.

Trails Committee Report. Bill Dyer summarized the Trails Committee meeting held
immediately before the Conservation Commission meeting. See the Trails Committee
meeting minutes for further detail.

Big Loop Trail Concept and Open Space Planning: Bill Dyer handed out new maps of
the so-called “Big Loop Trail” and described the proposed 12-mile backpacking loop. The
trail was included in the 2009 Open Space Plan, but Teresa Gallagher recently created a
more detailed map using the GIS mapping system. Most of the route already exists as the
Paugussett Trail, and would make use of the trail systems at the Land Trust properties
known as Nicholdale Farm, Willis Woods, and Tahmore. The route includes two
camping areas: Webb Mountain (general camping) and Nicholdale Farm (Scout/Youth
camping). Tom Harbinson noted that it was time to renew the Open Space Plan. Teresa
Gallagher said she has added the current Quality of Life properties to the GiS map and
recommended having one or two Conservation members in her office to review
properties.
Developments and Proposals:

1. There were no land use proposals to review.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Meeting minutes were prepared by Teresa Gallagher and should be considered in draft form until adopted at the next meeting. Audio tapes of the meeting are on file in the Town Clerk's office.