

Conservation Commission
City of Danbury
May 16, 2011
7:00 p.m.
City Hall – Room 2C
Meeting Minutes

BY: LK
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DANBURY TOWN CLERK

The meeting opened at approximately 7:02 p.m.

Members present: Linda Murray - Chairwoman, Ed Prybylski – Vice Chairman, Shaun McColgan - Secretary, Nelle Tresselt, Brian Batterson, and Kim Botelho - Commissioners.

Absent / excused: There is one (1) vacancy on the Commission.

Guests: Greg Cascio (prospective new commissioner), Will Michael, C. Rodney Dow.

Public speaking: none

Item: **Approval of April 18, 2011 meeting minutes** – Motion to approve - Ed, 2nd- Kim, vote – approved by all.

Presentation by Will Michael on Old Quarry Nature Center (OQNC)

Will, known as the “Connecticut Naturalist” spoke to the commission about starting a program, or programs, at OQNC. He spoke about conducting nature walks with area schools and for individuals. Will would also would like to hold “living laboratory” classes at OQNC. Will has met with the Parks and Recreation Director, Nick Kaplanis, about his ideas. There was also discussion about holding summer programs at OQNC.

Reports:

Still River Greenway (SRG): Lin reported that the SRG clean-up was done last weekend and went very well. There were fifteen (15) volunteers. SRG was mowed too.

Old Quarry Nature Center (OQNC): Lin and Kim reported that they have been working on the trails. Lin has requested a purchase order to replace the plexiglass for the kiosk.

Bear Mountain Reservation (BMR): Lin reported that the trails and fields have been mowed at BMR. She also reported that the mowing contractor told her he would not be able to do them again if the red trail gets any worse, as it is almost impassable from erosion.

Old Business / Key Initiatives:

BMR and SRG mowing: see above

Meadow management: see above

Budget management: There is some money left in the budget for this year to have maps made for OQNC.

Commission Development, Mill Plain Swamp, OQNC, and Added Layer of Protection for Major Parks: Nothing new to report on these initiatives.

New Business:

CT Trails Day, citywide “Walk for Health”: To be held at various locations throughout Danbury on June 4th (Saturday). Kim is doing a walk at OQNC and there is a walk for

health at BMR. Additionally, Lin is doing a “letterboxing” program for young children at BMR.

Progress of Open Space Bond Issue Properties: Nelle reported that a smaller US Army base will be opening on the Lee Farm property.

Motion to adjourn by Shaun, seconded by Kim, and approved by all.
Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., Room 2C, City Hall.
Submitted by: Shaun McColgan – Commission Secretary. 06/11/11