Members Present: Acting Chair, Patricia Bailey, Bill McCann, Colette Shulman, Geoff Gwyther and John Foley
Absent: Joanna Wozniak
Public & Invited: Sue Williams, Lucille Hinkley and Margaret Hill
Also Present: Christine Branson, Commission Clerk
Call to Order: Acting Chair, P Bailey Called the Meeting to Order at 7:10 p.m.

B. McCann Moved to Amend the Agenda to include Approval of Minutes.
Seconded by: C. Shulman
Vote: For: Unanimous

Approval of Minutes
B. McCann Moved to Approve the following Meeting Minutes as written:
Regular Monthly Meeting of February 12, 2014,
Regular Monthly Meeting of April 9, 2014,
Regular Monthly Meeting of May 14, 2014,
and Regular Monthly Meeting of June 11, 2014.
Seconded by: C. Shulman
Vote: For: Unanimous

Correspondence:
Planning & Zoning notification of a Public Hearing to take place July 17, 2014 in reference to an Application Modify the current regulations, Section 322.1.

New Business
New Member Endorsement and Vote
The Commission discussed the number of acting members and the need for additional members. Upon a short interview with Lucille Hinkley the following motion was made:
P. Bailey Moved to Accept the endorsement of Lucille Hinkley as a new member of the Sherman Conservation Commission.
Seconded by: B. McCann
Vote: For: Unanimous

Old Business
a. Invasives Removal Program
   i. Schedule identification walk

The Commission has been collaborating with several Groups within the Town to coordinate an event. The intention is to hold an event to educate the Public on identifying invasive species and the proper ways to remove and dispose of the debris. The Event will highlight a “top five” list of invasives such as Bittersweet, Multiflora Rose, Honeysuckle, Celestra, and Euonymus. One species in particular that may be difficult to deal with is Japanese Knotweed, at this time, the DEEP prohibits this species to be transported on roadways in an open truck. Discussion continued in reference to the possibility of obtaining burn permits for events or if the Town would be willing to participate in the disposal process. Further discussion will follow in the next meeting, once this is proposed to the First Selectman. Other items that will need to be discussed will be advertising, planning a reception following the event, and targeting a date sometime in late September/October.
ii. Weed wrench purchase

B. McCann spoke in reference to the weed wrench that was originally purchased personally by Geoff Gwyther. A weed wrench is a large device that is used to remove a plant from the ground, roots and all, similar to a crown bar. The wrench will facilitate the removal of invasive plants throughout the Town. At the Meeting last month, the Commission agreed to submit a reimbursement form to the Business Administrator and pay Mr. Gwyther for the expense. The wrench cost $295.00 and will be taken out of the FY 2013-14 Budget.

**B. McCann Moved to Approve** the purchase from Geoff Gwyther, the weed wrench in the amount of $295.00 to be owned by the Conservation Commission, pending the First Selectman’s approval.

**Seconded by:** C. Shulman

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

Natural Resources Inventory Report Update

B. McCann has been in contact with Fairfield Press, who was the original printer in 2005. They are still actively looking for the files. Suzan will look into converting the scanned documents to “OCR” to make what exists editable.

Kestrel Box Update

P. Bailey said there has been no feedback concerning the request to the BoS to place a kestrel box on Happy Acres Farm. Discussion followed regarding the timeframe if this is approved for next year. It would be ideal to have the post set before frost sets in and the box placed very early spring. P. Bailey will continue to ask the BoS.

Happy Acres Update

C. Shulman shared frustration in reference to the RFP and feels a date should be requested of the Board of Selectman as to when the proposal will go public. The Commission hopes to continue the tradition of holding community Farm Days on Happy Acres from time to time, as they have in the past.

Adjourn

**C. Shulman Adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

July 22, 2014