Members Present: Bill McCann, Patricia Bailey, Colette Shulman, J. Motsinger, and R. Martin
Absent: Joanna Wozniak- Brown, and M. LaVia
Also Present: Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

Call to Order: Chairman B. McCann Called the Meeting to Order at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

R. Martin Moved to Approve the Minutes of March 13, 2019 as amended, (Corrections to spelling: Kushner, Shulman, and change the word advice to advise). Seconded by: C. Shulman Vote: For: Unanimous

Correspondence-

Aquarion water- April 2019- seeking nominations for the annual grant awards. The deadline is May 1, 2019.

(The Board discussed nominating NAROMI, WCCA (Mike Benjamin), American Chestnut Program).

New Business –

Sustainable CT Event-

There is an event at White Memorial Conservation Center on April 12, 2019, check in begins at 8:30 am. P. Baily plans on attending. J. Motsinger stated he would be interested in hearing what they are promoting. Discussion took place regarding the suitability or fit for the Commission to join. The consensus was that it was beyond the scope of the Commission’s responsibility.

First Light HRP Grant-

Chair, W. McCann stated he applied by the April 1, 2019 deadline. The funding will be approximately $3,500.00. The idea is to utilize a portion of the funding to pay for an environmental consultant to create a long term remediation plan to present to the IWWC to obtain the proper permits to remove the invasives and plant appropriate native plants in their place. The remainder of the funding will be utilized to purchase equipment and tools

Next Project-

Chair, McCann handed out a list to the Commissioners of ideas for future projects. Discussion took place regarding proposing to the P&Z Commission about considering cluster housing, proposing soil based zoning, and creating a map of endangered species areas. Discussion also took place regarding creating a stewardship plan for Town Owned open space. The Commission discussed creating a Trail System Map at Volunteer Park and possibly other Town parks. Additional topics of discussion were holding educational programs to inform the public the risks of Lyme Disease and effective ways to reduce ticks on their property.
Old Business-

Air Monitoring Update-

C. Shulman reported that there will be a WACCA meeting on Monday April 15th, topics of discussion listed will be legislative and educational discussions. Discussion took place regarding the new equipment installation details. Chair, McCann stated he was told to anticipate by the first week in May, the equipment still needs to be calibrated. Mr. McCann met with First Selectman Lowe to seek an ideal location or locations.

American Chestnut Program-

Chair McCann stated he met with Jack Swatt, Cathy Hagadorn of the CT Audubon, and two volunteers and walked the Deer Pond Farm campus to determine a location for a chestnut orchard. They were able to find three possible areas. The Commission discussed an outing to find a town location for a germ program.

R. Martin Moved to support the implementation of the American Chestnut Germ Program.

Seconded by: P. Baily

Vote: For: Unanimous

Right to Farm Ordinance-

Chair McCann stated he plans to get on the Agenda for April’s Selectman’s Meeting to propose a final draft. The Commission will receive the latest revision prior to this meeting and electronically agree to the revisions.

Adjournment- P. Bailey Adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Christine Branson, Commission Clerk
May 8, 2019