Conservation Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Mallory Town Hall, 7:00 PM

Members Present: Bill McCann, R. Martin, and Patricia Bailey

Absent: M. LaVia, and C. Shulman

Audience and Invited: None

Also Present: Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

Call to Order: Chairman B. McCann Called the Meeting to Order at 7:15 p.m.

B. McCann Moved to Amend the Agenda, under New Business: add item “d.” to include “Approval of 2020 Schedule of Meetings”.

Seconded by: R. Martin

Vote: For: Unanimous

Approval of Minutes: Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2019

P. Bailey Moved to Approve the Minutes of October 9, 2019 as written.

Seconded by: R. Martin

Vote: For: Unanimous

New Business:

a. Report on Daniel Esty’s Conference (Former head of DEEP)
P. Bailey reported she attended the conference and book signing at the Gunn Memorial Library in Washington, CT. Mr. Esty’s book, titled “A Better Planet” discusses climate change and efforts to reverse the damages.

b. Right to Farm Ordinance Passes
B. McCann reported he attended the Town Meeting where the Right to Farm Ordinance was proposed and passed by a vote 30 to 1.

c. Equipment Purchase Update
M. LaVia was not in attendance, however Clerk C. Branson read a brief statement from Mr. LaVia: “all the equipment has been ordered”.

d. Approval of 2020 Schedule of Meetings

P. Bailey Moved to Approve the 2020 Conservation Commission Schedule of Meetings as presented.

Seconded by: R. Martin

Vote: For: Unanimous

Old Business:

a. Conservation Cluster Zoning Discussion
The Commission discussed the importance of protecting the natural resources in the Town. Discussion followed regarding whether any required testing is currently practiced for nutrient rich soils when a subdivision is being considered. Mr. McCann recommended the Commission research other Towns that currently utilize conservation cluster zoning and come to the next meeting with questions and discussion points. This discussion was tabled to the December meeting.
b. **WCCAA Update**

Rolf Martin proposed updating a letter that was previously sent to Atty. Michael Sussman. The updates would include new data regarding toxicity levels. This letter is to accompany a previously proposed “Resolution of the Town of Sherman Conservation Commission opposing construction of the gas fired Cricket Valley Energy Center Power Plant and calling upon New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy, and other State leaders to take action to suspend development of the project”. The Commission agreed the updates would be helpful.

**P. Bailey Moved** to authorize R. Martin to update a letter previously sent concerning air quality protection containing new data and findings along with the proposed Resolution of The Town of Sherman Conservation Commission opposing construction of the gas-fired Cricket Valley Energy Center Power Plant and calling upon New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy, and other State leaders to take action to suspend development of the project” to Atty. M. Sussman, as well as copy to Federal, NY & CT State, and local environmental and government representatives.

**Seconded by: R. Martin**

**Vote: For: Unanimous**

c. **CACIWC Conference 11/23/19**

The Commission discussed the up-coming conference and agreed to car pool.

**Adjournment**

**P. Bailey Adjourned** the Meeting at 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

November 26, 2019