Members Present: Bill McCann, R. Martin, C. Shulman, M. LaVia and Patricia Bailey

Absent: None

Audience and Invited: None

Also Present: Christine Branson, Commission Clerk

Call to Order: Chairman B. McCann Called the Meeting to Order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: No Minutes were submitted

Correspondence:
CT Wildlife Magazine- Fall issue

New Business:

a. Proposed Cell Tower Meeting Review

Michele McKinnon reported her attendance at the virtual forum held on November 21st regarding a proposed tower located at 16 Coote Hill Road. There were representatives from Homeland Towers, AT&T and local agencies and groups. The proposed tower shall consist of a 175 foot tall monopole with two 20 foot antennae atop. Timber Trails Assoc. T. Hahn made a positive statement regarding coverage in the Southern end of town. The Commission discussed several environmental impacts the erection of the tower may cause. There were additional community members that shared concerns regarding the traffic impact to the shared narrow dirt lane. Discussion continued regarding wildlife protections. B. McCann suggested M. McKinnon reach out to former member J. Foley to see if he was aware of any endangered species reports in the area. B. McCann shall reach out to R. Cooper for an update on the status of the proposed tower.

b. CACIWC Conference Review

Michele McKinnon and Pat Bailey reported their virtual attendance of the conferences. There were several interesting topics covered. Some highlights were: DEEP is offering safe hunting and fishing classes. Agricultural Station has an increase in their budget. There is a local tic study program taking place in the greater New Haven area tracking non-native tic species.

Old Business:

a. Pollinator Pathway Research Update

Chair, B. McCann gave an update of the status of the progress. Park & Rec. has given permission for the Conservation Commission’s Pollinator Pathway to proceed. B. McCann reported the First Selectman is enthusiastically supportive of this project. Discussion moved to choosing the specific location of the pathway.
b. Veteran’s Field I/W Application Update

Chair B. McCann reported he has worked with LUEO R. Cooper to get a letter of recommendation from First Light, since the majority of the land within the project belongs to First Light the IWWC Commission is requiring a letter of recommendation to move forward. Maps have been submitted to R. Cooper for review. Additionally Mr. Cooper has requested a rough schedule of plantings/species for review. Once the recommendation letter is obtained the application can go before the Inland/Wetlands Commission. Mr. McCann stated he would like to have a meeting with the First Selectman and Public Works to co-ordinate activities once approval from IWWC is granted.

c. WCCAA / Cricket Valley Update

Chair McCann reported the air monitors will be brought to Kent where they will be calibrated and data will be collected. Pat Bailey volunteered to bring the monitor to Kent.

Adjournment

B. McCann Adjourned the Meeting at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted:

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Christine Branson, Commission Clerk
December 16, 2020