



**Town of
Greenwich
Conservation Commission**

**Town Hall – 101 Field Point Road - Greenwich, CT 06830
Phone 203-622-6461 Fax 203-622-3795**

*Patricia Sesto
Director of
Environmental Affairs*

**MINUTES
July 11, 2022**

In attendance: Bill Rutherford, Chairman; Eric Brower, Vice-Chairman; Lisette Henrey, Nancy Dickinson; Gary Silberberg; Karen DeWahl; Sue Baker; Ted Walworth

Also in attendance: Patricia Sesto, Director

- 1) Call to Order
Bill Rutherford called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.
- 2) Seating of Alternates
Mr. Walworth was seated.
- 3) Review and approve minutes: June 2, 2022
Ms. Dickinson noted Mr. Brower's name was spelled incorrectly and the minutes should be corrected to state food scraps are collected year-round.

Gary Silberberg made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, seconded by Ted Walworth and carried 7-0-0.

- 4) Review of Correspondence
None
- 5) Chairman's Report
Mr. Rutherford reviewed various programs of the past month, including Experience the Sound and Electrify Your Life. Ms. Moch was acknowledged for her diligence in producing a successful EV program.

Discussion ensued regarding ongoing efforts to remove phragmites from Bruce Park.

- 6) Fisheries/Wildlife - Coccoaro
 - a) Mianus River Fish Ladder
 - b) Purple Martins
 - c) Horseshoe Crabs
 - d) Bat MonitoringA written report was distributed in advance of the meeting. No further questions.

**Conservation Commission Special Meeting Agenda
July 11, 2022**

7) Ongoing projects

- a) Pollinator Pathway – Moch
- b) FEMA HMGP – Coccaro

A written report was distributed in advance of the meeting. No further questions.

8) Education/Outreach

- a) Greenwich Food System Forum – Coccaro
- b) E-Expo report out - Moch

A written report was distributed in advance of the meeting. No further questions.

9) Committee and Liaison Reports

- a) Sustainability Committee – Sesto
 - (1) Transportation and Air Quality subcommittee – Moch

- b) GRAB – Dickinson/Moch

Ms. Dickinson reported on the Greenwich Food Savers Challenge. Seven restaurants qualified to participate in tracking waste, diversion, and means to avoid waste. The challenge is being led by Waste Free Greenwich with support from GRAB. A report is attached.

- c) Parks and Rec Board – Baker

Sue Baker recounted the consideration that go into deciding if the Fourth of July fireworks go ahead or are delayed due to weather.

Ms. Baker reported on a productive meeting at the Bruce Park ponds. Ongoing efforts will include manual/mechanical removal of the phragmites, increased saltwater flushing, and raising the water level. There is no one method that can successfully eradicate the reeds; multiple methods and ongoing effort will be needed.

- d) Harbor Management Commission – Baker

Ms. Baker reported the Harbor Master has resigned and a search for a new one is underway.

The Shellfish Commission has an application before it regarding an illegally finished basement at 32 Indian Point Drive. The basement elevation is below flood levels and the proposed corrective action involves building a sluiceway connecting the house to the seawall. Sarah Coccaro was lauded for having written an effective assessment on behalf of the commission.

Ms. Dickinson read off the top ten litter items collected at the Live Like Luke beach cleanup.

- e) Quiet Yards Greenwich – DeWahl

Karen DeWahl read the revised QYG mission statement, seeking approval.

Chairman Rutherford made a motion indicate the commission's support of the mission statement, seconded by Lisette Henrey, and carried unanimously.

10) Old Business

The Town complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination, equal opportunity, affirmative action, and providing reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. If you require an accommodation to participate, please contact the Commissioner of Human Services at 203-622-3800 or demetria.nelson@greenwichct.org as soon as possible in advance of the event.

**Conservation Commission Special Meeting Agenda
July 11, 2022**

- a) Open Space Plan – Update – Sesto
The plan should be sent to the graphic designer this week. Ms. Sesto is still on track for submission to the RTM for September.
 - b) Coastal Resiliency Report – comments and plan for approval – Sesto
All comments were submitted to the report authors. The commission will be able to review the report prior to asking for their endorsement.
 - c) Flood markers – Brower/Silberberg
Eric Brower provided an update on a meeting with CC and P&R. A plan of action has been developed and will be finalized once the material costs are reviewed.
- 11) New Business
- a) Bruce Park – Phragmites removal project – Petrick
See previous discussions.
- 12) Public Comment
none
- 13) Adjourn – next meeting is September 1, 2022
With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.



Patricia Sesto, Director
Environmental Affairs