

GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Minutes June 1, 2016 meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Anders Nygren called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Anders Nygren, Iain Kinsella, Gene Newell, Paul Gallo; absent: Sean Quinn, Chris Marino, Jason Masi.

APPROVAL of Minutes: The minutes of the May 4, 2016 meeting were presented for approval. Anders Nygren initiated discussion on the minutes to reflect the fact that the wording in bullet-list under New Topics section was misleading, that the East St. North Trail is NOT yet open. Iain Kinsella made a motion to amend the May 4 minutes to reflect this. Motion seconded by Gene Newell, the motion carried. Secretary will amend the minutes and submit to Town Clerk for posting.

OLD BUSINESS: Anders Nygren discussed the condition of the permit-required trail on the Torrington Water Company land, Iain Kinsella indicated that the trail was in excellent shape after a walk-through by himself, Jason Masi and Paul Gallo on May 7.

Anders Nygren confirmed that Commission members attended a trail maintenance walk on Saturday morning, May 7 on East St. North trail. Cutting tools and trail marking supplies were used to clean up and clearly mark the trail route. Anders Nygren has started nailing official trail marker signs to trees along the trail route.

Gene Newell confirmed that he, Suzanne Newell and Paul Gallo had started paint-blazing the same trail on May 31, 2016. The trail marking ended at the "glacial erratics" (two very large boulders), pending future Commission review of changing the trail route slightly in that area. Anders Nygren stated that in July Barry Donaldson will join Commission members to finish marking the trail. Iain Kinsella noted that a copy of the trail map was available, Anders Nygren noted that the trail locations may change in the future so the current map is a draft.

Anders Nygren discussed the proposed Goshen Wind Turbine farm to be built on Water Company land. He indicated that current thought is that it will provide a new stream of tax revenue to the town. Anders Nygren proposed that officially the Goshen Conservation Commission would have no objection to the installation of the Wind Turbine farm. Wind farm would ensure that the Water Company land would remain as open space. Gene Newell questioned if the Wind Turbine owners would maintain the area surrounding the towers to control invasive plant species.

Anders Nygren noted that he submitted a comment to Jamie Sydoriak, DEEP on their Green Plan as follows: *"The draft plan says that, since 2000-2002, there has been declining funding allocations for DEEP land acquisitions. However, it does not indicate the reasons for the reduction in funding. Thus, we suggest you provide the reasons."* He noted that no response has been received to date.

Anders Nygren asked the Commission members to propose new (indoor) projects for the year.

NEW BUSINESS: Town Topics newsletter submissions:

- New projects for the Commission to pursue
- Town Hall flower bed maintenance plan
- Article submission on Invasive Plant species discussed. Write-up, one each quarter, as an ongoing submission from the Goshen Conservation Commission.
- Fall announcement of trail opening

There was no other business to come before the meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Iain Kinsella seconded by Gene Newell; meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

  
Paul Gallo  
Secretary

Received June 13, 2016 2:07 PM

Attest Barbara Z. Bean  
Goshen Town Clerk