



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017, 7:00 PM  
TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Rebecca Quarno, Vice Chairman David Bidwell, James Gage, George Nickerson, and Robert Ziefelder, Jr.

**ABSENT:** Alternates Ann Harford, Alternate Walter Moody, and Sean Dwyer

**STAFF PRESENT:** Savannah Blantz, Recording Clerk.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Rebecca Quarno called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Ellington Town Hall Annex, 57 Main Street, Ellington, CT.

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (On Non-Agenda Items): NONE**

## **III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:**

### **1. Discussion - Energize Connecticut Initiative: Dave Bidwell/Staff – Leads**

Vice Chairman David Bidwell reminded the commission that Eversource will present a donation check at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and encouraged all members to attend.

Chairman Rebecca Quarno shared with the commission that Earth Light is the selected solar vendor for Ellington as part of the Solarize Connecticut Program by Smart Power. Chairman Quarno suggested a kick-off meeting with Earth Light at the next Conservation Commission in April.

### **2. Update – Hockanum River Trail Association: Ann Harford – Lead**

Nothing to report.

### **3. Report - Working Farmland Preservation Program: James Gage/Staff – Leads**

Chairman Quarno shared with the commission that the Board of Selectmen needs to approve the grant for the Cost of Community Services study. Once approved by the Board of Selectmen, Town Planner, Lisa Houlihan, will begin the contracting process.

4. Report - Open Space Preservation Program: James Gage – Lead

Nothing to report.

#### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

1. FY16-17 Budget Expenditure Update: Staff – Lead

Nothing to report.

2. Approval of the February 7, 2017 regular meeting minutes.

**MOVED (GAGE) SECONDED (BIDWELL) AND PASSED UNAMIOUSLY TO APPROVE FEBRUARY 7, 2017 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.**

3. Election of officers

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS UNAMIOUSLY TABLED TO NEXT MONTH'S CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING ON APRIL 4, 2017**

4. Correspondence:

- a. Nomination for 2017 Aquarion Water Company Environmental Champion Awards.

Chairman Quarno reviewed the event flyer with the commission. Vice Chairman Bidwell suggested nominating the Hockanum River Trail Association. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2017.

- b. CT Department of Agriculture \$7,200 award letter through Farm Viability Grant program for a Costs of Community Services Study.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOVED (ZIEFELDER) SECONDED (BIDWELL) AND PASSED UNAMIOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:25 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Savannah Blantz, Recording Clerk