

Barkhamsted Conservation Commission

Thursday April 2, 2015

Barkhamsted Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Chairman Scott Johnstone.

Members present: Mario Santoro, Ginny Apple, Deb Simon, Bill Winchester, Roger Behrens, Sue Mckitits-Perillo, Lynn Bartolucci and Scott Johnstone.

Absent: Khea Cook

Special Guests: None

Mario made a motion to approve March minutes as read. Lynn seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

- Resource list review: No new information was added to the resource list.
- Lynn will make a dedicated email address for commission members to use. She also sent Mario a file to practice on thru Dropbox. Lynn and Mario will continue to work thru issues and will send a link to members so they can practice entering data this month.
- Ginny presented new information on the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Barkhamsted Earth Day Celebration to be held on Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>. The time is 12:30-5:30 p.m. A rain date is set for Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. She has added commitments for booth and/or lecture presentations from The Friends of Peoples Forest and Shepaug Eagle Experts. The fire department will provide additional lighting in pavilion. Bill will mention event at upcoming Barkhamsted Lions Club meeting. Last year the Lions Club volunteers assisted in cleanup along the river.
- Deb reviewed the talking points from the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the proposed Greenwood's Bike Trail. Those in attendance included FRWA, FRCC, members of New Hartford Economic Development Team, The MDC representative, First Selectman from New Hartford and Barkhamsted and several members from our commission. There was a strong push from the New Hartford side to continue process because of the potential economic upside to their town. Deb passed around maps highlighting species and habitats that would be affected by this proposed trail. A subcommittee will walk and mark with flags where the trail would potentially go. Another meeting date will be announced soon.
- The commission members discussed who to nominate for The Environmental Champions Awards Program sponsored by Aquarian Water Company. Scott made a motion to nominate the Barkhamsted Conservation Commission. Ginny seconded. Six members voted in favor two members abstained. Scott, Bill, Roger and Ginny will draft a letter to be reviewed by all commission members containing a list of accomplishments of the BCC. Once this letter is approved it will be submitted with the application to the Aquarian Water Company. There is

grant money available that the commission would use towards developing and promoting new ideas.

- The annual poster contest for the Barkhamsted School students is here again. Ginny announced this year's theme is the Monarch Butterfly. She will be in contact with the School Principal concerning the appropriate time to drop poster board off and other contest details.
- The commission will also develop a Monarch Butterfly awareness program that will hopefully launch at the Earth Day celebration.

### **Meetings/Seminars:**

Lynn did attend her scheduled Planning and Zoning meeting and reported that there was a review of an application for an in-law apartment on River Road.

Scott reported that the application for the in-law apartment on River Road was accepted. There is to be a public hearing at the April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting concerning the idea of Incentive Housing in town.

Deb attended the Connecticut Land Conservation Conference and found it to be very informative. She attended several including how to fundraise for your local Land Trust.

New Planning and Zoning meeting schedule: April 9<sup>th</sup> —Bill; April 23<sup>rd</sup> — Mario.

### **New Business:**

- Ginny working with Don Stein and the Connecticut Department of Transportation about installing Wildlife awareness signage along Route 181 alerting drivers to the high deer density there.
- Roger dropped a CD off at the Town Hall that chronicles the canoe trip taken by David Sinish and a cameraman as they paddled down the Farmington River. It is a terrific film about the river and the flora and fauna that is so abundant and important to our ecosystem. Hopefully the public will enjoy this film.
- Deb announced the Northeast Alliance Wood Turtle Survey she will be conducting. All members are welcome to attend and participate.

**Correspondence:** No Correspondence reported.

Scott made a motion to adjourn meeting at 9:16 pm. Lynn seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Winchester, Secretary.