

Town of Madison CT
Conservation Commission

Regular Meeting

April 22, 2019, 7:30PM

Meeting Room A Madison Town Campus

Members present: Chairman Fran Brady, Vice Chair Christine Bouchard, Secretary Alex Cushing, Commissioners Heather Crawford and Rachel Blundon.

Members absent: Richard Gedney

Additional attendees: Scott Sandora (pending Commissioner)

1. **Call meeting to order:** Chairman Fran Brady called the meeting to order at 7:33pm
2. **Call for additional agenda items:** Commissioner Crawford wished to add a discussion of the Commission's potential contribution to the Bauer Park Committee's new 5-year planning process.
3. **Review and approve minutes for March 25th, 2019 as submitted:** Commissioner Heather Crawford made the motion to approve the March 11, 2019 minutes as written; it was seconded by Vice Chairman Christine Bouchard and unanimously approved.

Vote to approve the March 25th 2019 minutes as written, passed 5-0-0.

IN FAVOR: Chairman Fran Brady, Vice Chair Christine Bouchard, Secretary Alex Cushing, Commissioners Heather Crawford and Rachel Blundon.

OPPOSED: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

4. **Natural Resource Inventory: Natural Resource Inventory Walk @ Ox Pasture – final arrangements for Saturday April 20th at 9:30AM.** This walk will be rescheduled due to inclement weather on the originally scheduled date. New date will be **Saturday September 14th at 3:00PM.** Chairman Brady will inform the Town Clerk for posting on the town's web site. Vice Chairman Bouchard reviewed the Epicollect5 application. Site data will be loaded up on an individual basis in the future.

Next NRI walk will be on Saturday May 4th at 1PM at Rockland Preserve.

5. Project Updates:

- **Earth Day 2019 – planning discussion & final agreement on responsibilities for Saturday April 27th:** The logistics for the event were confirmed by Commission Blundon. The Earth Day event will open at 11AM and go to 3PM. Commission Crawford will bring a table and Vice Chairman Bouchard a tent and set up at 10:30AM. The 3 main poster topics that we will highlight at the event will be: Pesticides, Single Use Plastics, and Pollinators. The Commission will also be supporting the Town's **Green Up, Clean Up** program that same day by being present at the North Madison support station located at the Robert's Food Center parking lot. Secretary Alex Cushing will help set up a table at 8:30AM and man the station there during the event.

- **Sustainable CT Silver Goal for Madison – discuss CC focus areas such as Invasive Species Education & Management – prioritize and resource:** Chairman Brady reported on his meeting with the Madison Sustainable CT Team held that morning Monday April 22nd and presented a list of potential projects that the Commission could prioritize in order to help the town achieve Silver status. The activities would need to be accomplished or documented to be achieved by a certain date in order to qualify by the end of July 2019. The commission agreed to vote on the list at the Commission's May 13th meeting and select at least two areas for immediate focus.

- **Daniel Hand HS feedback on future engagement with our Commission:** Chairman Brady reported on his meeting with the Daniel Hand High School Ecology Club and its faculty sponsor, Ms. Elisa Brako. Both the children and Ms. Brako are very interested in working on Educational and Internship areas for the Commission. The club will meet next Monday to discuss the extent of their participation. Ideally, several of the students would participate in future Natural Resource Inventory walks thus expanding our reach, while others would help preparing Educational tools for our selected Sustainable CT programs from the above meeting minute. In both cases, supervisory support from the Commission would be required to ensure a good learning experience for the students.

- **Madison Farmers' Market – decide on the list of topics we wish to feature over the course of the summer at our table:** The Commission agreed that it would be sufficient that we participate at this weekly Friday 3 – 6 PM event in the summer just once a month. The first event where we will attend will be May 3rd. Commissioner Crawford suggested 3 key topics to highlight each month on a rotating basis:
 - May – Invasives Education with a corresponding list of Native plants
 - June – Dark Skies
 - July – Single Use Plastics
 - August – repeat list with Invasives again

- **Bauer Park Committee Support:** Commissioner Crawford will speak with the Bauer Park committee and provide support in developing their 5-year plan including a view on Invasives and their mowing plan. Chairman Brady will seek support with Director of Planning and Economic Development David Anderson.

6. Adjournment: Commissioner Crawford made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blundon and unanimously approved.

Vote to adjourn passed, 5-0-0.

IN FAVOR: Chairman Brady, Vice Chairman Bouchard, secretary Cushing and commissioners Crawford and Blundon

OPPOSED: None

ABSTAINED: None

Respectfully submitted,
 Fran Brady, Chairman