

Windsor Conservation Commission
Draft Minutes March 26, 2019
Dr. Primus Room, Windsor Town Hall

Present: A. Beaudin, L. Chayes, J. Klase, N. Pepin, N. Sachdev, C. Yeich; liaison, T. Hazel

Absent: D. DeCarlo

Attendees: potential CC member: Brian Canoni; Food and Water Watch rep, Jen Siskind

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M.

- The “Water” forum, held in February was discussed. Attendance was respectable, but disappointing to some – thoughts were that the cold weather is sometimes a deterrent as well as the venue and topic interest. The town is in favor of holding events at the Art Center as it has cross promotional benefits. Future program venues were talked about as well. The Library seems to be the preferred location; however, the dates have to be solid as it is a popular meeting location.

- The next CC sponsored forum, entitled “Growing Healthy Vegetables,” will be held on May 8th at the Council Chambers from 7-8:30. David Kittredge Executive Director of Bionutrient Food Association will be the main speaker.

- The meeting was handed over to guest Jen Siskind from *Food and Water Watch*, who requested support for the passage of SB 753, an act concerning the statewide ban on fracking waste. The bill to ban hydraulic fracking waste has been compromised. The temporary moratorium, enacted by the state in 2014, lacks language on regulation and management of fracked waste and waste from non-fracking sites. Ms. Siskind very succinctly outlined the hazards of transporting fracking waste; the harsh chemicals used and waste generated from the extraction process including (but not limited to) radioactive matter; inadequate treatment and management of the waste; transforming the waste into unhealthy/environmentally harmful byproducts used for brownfield remediation; and the detrimental consequences for our town, our environment, our waterways and the state. Presently there are no laws in place to handle fracking waste especially the radioactive variety. Citizen outreach is needed and we were encouraged to contact our state representatives in support of the act.

- It was agreed upon to support SB 753 by writing a letter, as a unit, to be presented to the town manager, the town council and ultimately to the assembly. Chair Ann will draft a letter and send it to the members for first approval.

Round the Table

-Tom gave a quick update on the *Traditions* property. The former Club House has been zoned NZ. Broadly interpreted – it will be managed as a quasi-public, separate entity allowing the town to lease it and use it for multiple purposes.

-Great Pond area brought some discussion. First phase includes a club house, garage and approximately 275 apartment units. Warehouses will also frame the development which Lea was concerned about as trucks will be sharing the same roads as residents.

- Colette inquired about the status of the former ranger home at NW Park which had a costly Geothermal Unit installed a number of years ago. Tom reported that they are working on a tenant.

Ann moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Jamie.

Respectfully Submitted:

Colette Yeich,
CC Secretary