

**Windsor Conservation Commission
October 29, 2024, Draft Minutes
Town Council Chambers and ZOOM**

Chair Young called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

Present: J. Bergeron, L. Chayes, B. Robinson, T. Tomcho, C. Yeich, T. Young; ex officio, C. Thompson

Absent: A. Adams, J. Henry, S. LeGendre, J. Zepperi

A. Minutes were deferred to the November meeting.

B. Old Business

i - Bird House Project on the River Walk – Julie B. expressed that there has not been any movement from the last report. She is hopeful that the commission can turn this into a CC celebration/event. The *Rise Up* group will be contacted for suggestions on painting and erecting the houses. Issues include insurance and maintenance. The hired contractor may suggest placement of the birdhouses on the trail which, in turn, must be confirmed by the Public Works department. The commission will be shooting for a spring event.

ii – Clean and Green - Colette submitted a report on the cleanup of our assigned River Trail (across from Barts) on September 13th. However, she is unclear as to whether another cleanup is necessary this year according to our contract. She will contact Public Works for clarification. Photos were sent and would be advantageous to add to the town CC website. A spring cleanup will be scheduled at a later meeting.

iii – Textile Recycling – Lea would like to have this happen in town and at a convenient location for townspeople as the collection site at the Landfill is no longer functioning. South Windsor has 3 neat, reachable containers at school parking lots; Bloomfield has a collection bin at the Town Hall. Tim cited several Windsor clothes and shoes collection areas – i.e. parking lots @ Stop & Shop, and bath and kitchen store in Poquonock. Chloe cautioned that there are inherent problems, such as unsightly messes that are created around the perimeter of the bins; zoning concerns; health concerns; etc. As part of the CC's goal to educate the public, it was suggested that we get the word out on textile recycling and other important conservation issues via creating a continuing living document.

iv – Legislation on Nips - Tim submitted a draft of proposed testimony regarding the *Nip Bill* to present to the CT legislature. Tim promotes raising the surcharge, designing a self-service machine that accepts nip containers, and expanding the law to include containers up to 200 ml which would help the management of solid waste and reduce pollution. An action plan to be discussed at the next meeting.

C. New Business

i - Farewell to former Chair Ann - Colette suggested planting a tree in her honor for 20 years of service on the Commission. Brad suggested a native tree – High Bush Blueberry/Shad Blue to be planted on the River Walk. Colette will investigate a plaque, and Chloe will review the cost, planting and maintenance with DPW.

ii - CACIWC – Commissioners Tammy, Tim and Lea will be attending the conference in November.

iii – Ideas on Articles – Chloe reminded members that writing in the name of the commission needs approval from the town. Ideas and information should be disseminated without endorsements. Brad noted that a disclaimer can be added.

iv – Potential Partner - Tim suggested that the commissioners invite Lynn Wilkos from the Junior Women’s Club Conservation Committee to a meeting to brainstorm ideas on partnership programs.

-Brad motioned to accept the 2025 meeting schedule that was sent to members from the town clerk’s office, seconded by Tim, accepted unanimously 6.0.0.

d. Petitions from Commissioners – Colette asked if all had read the email from Joe regarding his experience in composting. Most members had not received it – she will forward it.

Brad motioned to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Tim.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Yeich, Secretary