



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

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**CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Friday, March 13, 2020

9:00 A.M.

Town Hall – First Floor Conference Room

PRESENT: Will Hochholzer and Carl P. Fortuna, Jr. Staff: Ray Allen, P & R Director
Also present: Alex Sokolov, Bob Lorenz, Kathy Connolly and Town Attorney Michael Cronin

- I. CALL TO ORDER-** Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.
- II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC-** None
- III. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE-** Will Hochholzer indicated that David Gumbart, from TNC, is out of state and unable to attend.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-** January 10, 2020
FORTUNA/HOCHHOLZER
Motion to approved Conservation Management meeting minutes January 10, 2020
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- V. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD**
 - A.** Amendment to the Conservation Management Committee Agreement to incorporate the Hunting Review Report.
Will Hochholzer stated that the report had previously been presented to the CMC and that hunting in a healthy way to help the forest regenerate. Attorney Cronin stated that this will turn jurisdiction for hunting over to the State, as governed by CGS sections 23 (Parks) and 25 (Fish and Game). He noted there was a specific requirement when we purchased the property with regard to the allowance of hunting. He did not feel allowing this activity conflicts with current P & R ordinances as the Preserve is not a Park or a Facility restricting firearms. Kathy Connolly expressed that she thought it was the sentiment of the ad hoc committee to allow for bow hunting but only insofar as the noise issue. Mr. Lorenz expressed that he understands that hunting is effective game management. Mr. Fortuna stated that at least the hunting will be regulated by season and it won't simply be open season in the Preserve.
FORTUNA/HOCHHOLZER
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B. Update on the Preserve Parking Lots: Route 153 and Ingham Hill Road parking lot and turnaround.

Mr. Sokolov indicated that the shield permit has been submitted to DOT and the installation should be in 2-4 weeks. As for Ingham, Mr. Fortuna will check with Christine Nelson as to what else needs to be done.

C. The Preserve Forest Stewardship Plan.

Nothing particularly new. Ray Allen has still not heard from Bill Moorhead.

D. Update on monitoring and control efforts for invasive weeds.

Kathy Connolly put in a grant request to TPL. Expects a response in June. The request concerns garbage, gate repair, weed management, roof over kiosk. She also is hoping to get a work party soon to cut more Japanese stilt grass. She recommends not pulling it out. She is concerned about a bridge on the red trail and the concern for horses crossing. She and Alex will take a look to see if it can be repaired. She also queried whether the red trail is the designated emergency management entrance. She asked whether hikes can still occur in the Preserve. She was advised to hold off on organized hikes for the next month.

E. Application for funds from the Trust for Public Land

VI. OTHER BUSINESS – Kathy wondered whether there could be a follow up to assist with phragmites control as she feels now is a good time. Will will get with Roger Wolf.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE - June 12th at 9am in Old Saybrook.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

FORTUNA/HOCHHOLZER

Motion to adjourn at 9:55 a.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Submitted by:

Carl P. Fortuna Jr.,
First Selectman, Town of Old Saybrook