TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Conservation Commission

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475
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MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting
Town Hall 2nd floor conference room
302 Main Street

I.  CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Picklo called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

II.  ROLL CALL

Members Present – Christine Picklo (remote), Larry Ritzhaupt, Donna Leake (remote),
Michael Osnato (remote), Peter DeLisa, Laurie Aparo (remote)

Members Absent – Kelly Hartshorn, Carlina Castro

Land Use Department Staff – Lynette Wacker, Assistant Town Planner;
Carolina Maharbiz, Recording Clerk

III.  REGULAR BUSINESS

A.  Minutes – 5/10/2022

MOTION to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2022, as presented;
MADE by P. DeLisa and SECONDED by L. Ritzhaupt; VOTED IN FAVOR: C.
Picklo, L. Ritzhaupt, D. Leake, M. Osnato, P. DeLisa, L. Aparo; OPPOSED: None;
ABSTAINED: None.  APPROVED: 6-0-0.

B.  Correspondence & Announcements – None

C.  Committee and Representative Reports (Significant Update Only)

i.  Inland Wetlands and Aquifer Commissions – P. DeLisa reported that
IWWC heard about the same two projects at Saybrook Pizza and for a
commercial development near Big Y.
ii. **Preserve Management Committee** – C. Picklo reported that a meeting took place between the town and representatives of the State to discuss the town’s concerns regarding the Preserve and next steps.

iii. **Land Trust** – no report.

iv. **Parks and Rec** – none other than the kayak launch information discussed below.

v. **Student Rep.** – no report.

vi. **Staff Report** – L. Wacker reported that the Planning Commission would be discussing at their meeting the next day the draft of the Natural Resources section of the plan of conservation and development.

D. **Goals and Action Tracker** – The Commission discussed their prior decision to provide funds for a trails layer on MapGeo and agreed that adding a trails layer would be beneficial to the town.

**MOTION** that the Conservation Commission provide funds to be determined in support of the MapGeo project for a trails layer; **MADE** by C. Picklo and **SECONDED** by L. Ritzhaupt; **VOTED IN FAVOR:** C. Picklo, L. Ritzhaupt, D. Leake, M. Osnato, P. DeLisa, L. Aparo; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None. **APPROVED:** 6-0-0.

IV. **LAND STEWARDSHIP**

A. **Open Space Monitoring** – C. Picklo discussed efforts to mark trails at Great Cedars East and decision made to do it in the fall.

B. **Pollinator Pathway & Education** – C. Picklo reported that she went to Gardiner’s Landing in May with the Girl Scouts and cleaned out one of the larger gardens. L. Wacker mentioned that the two pollinator planters have been filled in front of town hall and at Parks & Rec.

C. **Kayak Launch & Other Improvements** – L. Ritzhaupt reported that the subcommittee has identified three potential sites and has asked for a conversation with someone from the state about what might be required for each site in order to receive the state’s approval. He has been in contact with several people from the State and is awaiting an answer.

V. **OUTREACH & EDUCATION**
A. **Conservation Circular & Saybrook Events Q3** – C. Picklo plans to finish writing an article about invasives for the Circular. For Saybrook Events, L. Wacker suggested writing about LightsOuts.org, which encourages people to turn off their lights in the evening during certain weeks of the spring and fall because light pollution interferes with the migratory path of birds.

B. **Special Projects**

   i. **Invasive Species Program 6/18/22** – L. Wacker reported that the event is fully registered and onto a waiting list, flyers are ready, and will have pollinator signs available. The Conservation Commission purchased a book for a door prize.

   ii. **Plastic waste in LI Sound** – M. Osnato prepared an article to be included in Events and the Circular.

   iii. **Plastics Free July** – L. Wacker volunteered to post on Facebook.

C. **Commission Webpage and Additional Outreach** – L. Wacker stated that she will be working on the webpage soon.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

   **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 7.54 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled hybrid meeting of the Conservation Commission on July 12, 2022, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room, 302 Main St., Old Saybrook; **MADE** by M. Osnato and **SECONDED** by P. DeLisa; **VOTED IN FAVOR**: C. Picklo, L. Ritzhaupt, D. Leake, M. Osnato, P. DeLisa, L. Aparo; **OPPOSED**: None; **ABSTAINED**: None.

   **APPROVED**: 6-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Carolina Maharbiz, Recording Clerk