



Coventry Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting
April 27, 2016
Town Office Building–Development Conference Room

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Leroy Lowe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other members present were Art Hall, Robert Proctor, Paul Manzone and Vincent Messino.

2. Secretary's Report

Art Hall moved to approve the minutes of March 23, 2016. Vincent Messino seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

3. Financial Report

The budget level as last reported was \$2,135, recognizing that on-going purchases for the Annex rain garden, and other expenses, will impact that figure.

4. Audience of Citizens/Special Business

None.

5. Site Plan/Town Referral

Art Hall moved to add consideration of 16-04S to the agenda. Paul Manzone seconded the motion. All were in favor and the item was added. This application by Daniel Lagosh is for a single family residence to be built at 66 Beaver Trail. Our only comment: Why does the plan call for a working septic system when hooking-up to the town sewer scheme seems easy and appropriate?

6. New Business

- We noted comments by Land Use on our Patriots Park Woods management plan. We still await feedback on the plan from Eric Thomas.
- We reviewed our stone wall clean-up April 17th at Hale Homestead, noting that future coordination with Hale would prevent cars parking close to their stone wall the morning of our next clean-up.
- We reviewed our Daly Road litter patrol April 24th. Again this year we found this area defiled by hundreds of nipper liquor bottles along with a more typical assortment of trash. At the very least, we think signage by the shops' parking lot on the corner at Main Street might help stem this littering.
- We talked about the invasive flora taking over parts of Patriots Park Woods. We would like to set up a trial project in one or more of these afflicted areas wherein invasives are cut to the ground and young conifers are planted among them. We expect that in a short while the growing trees would create shade sufficient to choke off the invasives' re-growth. If so, implications for the rest of the parcel are clear as indeed for many other tracts in town. Details of these plantings will have to be carefully worked out for best effect.

7. Old Business

None.

8. Members Forum

None.

9. Communications

- The Connecticut Audubon Society is conducting a "Birding for Beginners" bird walk Sunday May 1 at 8 a.m. at the Pomfret Sanctuary, 218 Day Road in Pomfret Center. The session will be conducted by sanctuary manager Andy Rzeznikiewicz. Cost for CAS members is \$5, non-members \$10. Colorful spring birds have arrived and the leaves are not yet out, so expect to get a good look at yellow warblers, blue winged warblers, black and white warblers, among others.
- Ribbon cutting ceremonies Saturday May 14th will mark the newly constructed connection between the Air Line and Hop River State Park Trails, and also recent additions to the Willimantic River National Recreation Trail. The events are presented by the state Departments of Transportation and Energy & Environmental Protection and the Town of Windham. Ceremony for the trails connection is at 11:30 a.m. and for

the river additions at 12:30 p.m. Both will be at the Air Line State Park Trail Bridge over the Willimantic. Parking at 55 Bridge Street, Willimantic. Follow signs to the trail head.

- Aquarion Water Company invites nominations of large and small businesses that have contributed to environmental improvement through protection, conservation, restoration or stewardship of Connecticut's natural resources. Details and nomination procedure for the program are at aquarionwater.com. Deadline is May 4th.

10. Adjournment

Leroy Lowe moved to adjourn the meeting. Vincent Messino seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2016.

Submitted by Robert Proctor