

September 17, 2013

Regular Meeting

Present: William Urban, Chairman
Randy Carroll
Tim Holman
Luanna Plocha

Absent: Jennifer Draus
John Jones
Frank Pergola

The regular meeting of the Ansonia Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Urban.

The secretary called the roll.

There was a quorum present.

Public Session

Chairman Urban asked three (3) times if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the Commission. There being no one, he called for a motion to close the public session.

Mr. Holman made a motion to close the public session. Mr. Carroll seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Minutes

Mr. Carroll made a motion to accept as written and place on file the minutes of the last Regular Meeting. Mr. Holman seconded. All in favor, so carried.

CC 091713

Bills

Mr. Holman made a motion to pay all bills if found to be correct. Mr. Carroll seconded. All in favor, so carried.

Correspondence

Mr. Carroll said he had some correspondence to review with the Commission members.

1. Mr. Carroll said he received a notice from Dr. Jerry Silver, Conservation Commission Chairman for the Town of Guilford. The Notice states that he will present a lecture at the ANC on children and lawn chemicals don't mix. Dr. Silver is inviting all of the Conservation Commissions to attend this lecture. Mr. Carroll said that all of Ansonia's Conservation Commission members are invited.
2. Mr. Carroll said there was a Draft Letter from the Board of Aldermen to Al Smith, Recreation Commission re: 48 Silver Hill Road. Mr. Carroll said that this property was discussed at the August 8, 2013 Board of Aldermen meeting. He said there was a packet of information regarding 48 Silver Hill Road with the Draft letters to the Recreation Commission and the Conservation Commission. He said the Conservation Commission never received a referral letter from the Board of Aldermen regarding this property.

There was discussion on the property and its location on Silver Hill Road. Chairman Urban said that a response to a referral for this property should include a statement that this parcel is not and never can be a building lot and that it should not be subdivided and the footprint could not be extended.

Mr. Carroll asked the Commission if he could go up to the property and take a look at it to see where it is located and the condition of the parcel. The Commission members had no problem with Mr. Carroll doing a site inspection and reporting back.

3. Donna Lindgren re: Grant to re-pave the parking lot at the Ansonia Nature Center.

Mr. Carroll read the letter received from Ms. Lindgren. (copy attached)

Chairman Urban said that the letter is not clear and it is difficult for the Commission to understand what she is asking from the Conservation Commission.

Ms. Plocha made a motion to send a letter to Ms. Lindgren asking her to send the Conservation Commission a copy of her grant application so that the Commission can better understand what she is seeking. Mr. Holman seconded. All in favor, so carried.

4. The Habitat, Summer 2013 page 9: “Last minute ATV Bill Vetoed by Governor Malloy.

Mr. Carroll read this section to the members. He reminded the commission of the damage that ATV vehicles did at Fountain Lake Park and that the drivers removed the signs that he put up. ATV’s are destroying a major part of Fountain Lake.

There was discussion on allowing ATV vehicles in parks. Copy of the article is attached.

5. Mr. Carroll said the State of Connecticut passed legislation regarding open space. It states that from now on when a house is sold in Connecticut that part of the fees the Town Clerk receives will go to the State of Connecticut to purchase open space properties.

Mr. Carroll said that Ansonia’s Planning & Zoning Commission has a policy regarding Fees in lieu of Open Space.

There was discussion on the open space policy in the City of Ansonia and that the fees that are collected could be used by the City to purchase open space land.

6. 40 Hotchkiss Terrace. Mr. Carroll said that the property owner of 40 Hotchkiss was present at the August 13th Board of Aldermen meeting. He explained there is a driveway beginning in Ansonia and goes to Seymour where there are two or three houses located. Mr. Carroll said the property owner states there is erosion and sediment going from this driveway down to Coe Pond which is located in Ansonia.

The secretary advised the commission that there was a letter sent to DEEP regarding this situation and DEEP replied that there was nothing they could do because they do not have staff or funds to investigate violations. The City Engineer was asked by the P&Z Commission to meet with the Town of Seymour and try to resolve this issue.

7. Mr. Carroll said he attended the Land Use Committee meeting of the Board of Aldermen this evening before Conservation Commission meeting. There was discussion on Quarry Road. There is a request from a resident residing on Quarry Road to make Quarry Road a City Street. He said it was stated at the meeting that there are private sewers, water and electric on that driveway known as Quarry Road. None of the utilities are public (city) they are all private.

Chairman Urban said that Quarry Road was and an in and out wagon path to quarry stone. It was the intent of this path to be an access and egress for a commercial operation of a stone quarry. It was never meant to be a City Street.

There was discussion on the history of Quarry Road.

Referrals

There are no referrals.

Adjourn

Mr. Carroll made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Ms. Plocha seconded. All in favor, so carried.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Lynn Flaherty
Secretary