

Conservation Commission
City of Danbury
January 26, 2009
7:30 p.m.
City Hall – Room 2C
Meeting Minutes

The meeting opened at approximately 7:35 p.m.

Members present: Bill Montgomery - Chairman, Ed Prybylski – Vice Chairman, Shaun McColgan - Secretary, Linda Murray, Levi Newsome, Nelle Tresselt, Rich Hale.

Guests: Gio Ogno – Old Quarry Nature Center, Kim Botelho

Introductions were done by Commission members and Gio to Kim Botelho, prospective new commissioner.

Item: **Approval of November 17, 2008 meeting** – Motion to approve - Ed, 2nd- Rich, vote – approved by all.

Reports: – Bear Mountain: Lin, Shaun, and Rich.

Shaun – nothing new to report and no problems.

Rich – same as Shaun, but also reports that some trails are very icy.

Lin – the new trail is being hiked on a lot. The Boy Scouts have been in touch with Lin about possible projects. A West-Conn State University class is coming to BMR on April 1st to map trails by GPS (global positioning).

Bill reported that the Eagle Scout project is on hold until the spring.

Old Quarry Nature Center: Gio reported that he is involved in the “No Child Left Behind” project. He is also meeting with directors of other nature preserve/centers in CT on Feb. 23, 2009, and is working on coordinating with New York.

Old Business:

2009-2010 Budget: the commission discussed the budget for the upcoming year. Bill gave out copies of the budget memo he sent to the finance director with a breakdown of expenses.

Kenosia Avenue Swamp Boardwalk and Bird Viewing Area: Bill reported that Jack Kozuchowski (our advisor) stated that this project must be sponsored by a city department head. Bill wrote to the Mayor and requested that Dennis Elpern sponsor the project and issue an RFQ (Request for Quote) for a feasibility study, and Dennis said he is interested in doing so.

Lin reports that she has a friend who is a bird expert that considers this area a real gem for bird watching and bird habitats. Bird boxes are also available and Lin will follow up with Jack on any requirements needed to put them up.

New Business:

BMR cottage lease: Bill received a letter from Corporation Counsel that the lease has expired and needs to be renewed if Shaun wants to continue living there. Shaun said he does want to continue living there and would like to renew the lease. Ed made a motion

that the lease be renewed, seconded by Levi, and approved by all with one abstention, Shaun.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on a motion by Levi, seconded by Ed, and approved by all.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 23, 2009, at 7:30 p.m., Room 2C, City Hall.

Submitted by: Shaun McColgan – Commission Secretary.

01/31/09