

Conservation Commission
City of Danbury
October 17, 2011
7:00 p.m.
City Hall – Room 3C
Meeting Minutes

The meeting opened at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Linda Murray - Chairwoman, Ed Prybylski – Vice Chairman, Shaun McColgan – Secretary, Greg Cascio, and Brian Batterson – Commissioners.

Absent / Excused: Nelle Tresselt, Kim Botelho – Commissioners.

Guests: Justin, Jeffrey, and George Hoyt. Will Michael-OQNC Advisor.

Public speaking opportunity: No speakers.

Eagle Scout projects at Old Quarry Nature Center:

1. Presentation by Boy Scout Jeffrey Hoyt:

Jeffrey Hoyt presented the commission with a handout that showed two possible Eagle Scout projects for OQNC. Originally Jeff was considering doing his project at BMR but after explaining that none of his ideas for BMR were accepted by the Boy Scouts he decided to do it at OQNC. One involves the parking lot off Maple Lane and the other involves a project in the rear area of the Nature Center building.

2. Presentation by Boy Scout Justin Hoyt:

Justin Hoyt presented the commission with a handout of his proposed Eagle Scout project, also at OQNC. It involves a project in the front area of the Nature Center. The commission approved of the proposed projects at the Nature Center and will wait to hear how the Eagle Scout review committee decides on each project.

Item: **Approval of September 19, 2011 meeting minutes** – Motion to approve – Ed, 2nd - Greg, vote – approved by all.

Reports:

Still River Greenway (SRG): Nelle was not present to report but did relate to Lin that there are issues with the Still River Alliance (SRA) and its membership.

Old Quarry Nature Center (OQNC): Lin stated that the Cub Scouts are coming this month for a hike and tour of the Nature Center Field House. Will was formally introduced as the new advisor for the OQNC. There are still many trails that have trees down from the recent storms. Lin also reported that there are problems with the alarm at the building going off frequently.

Bear Mountain Reservation (BMR): The only ongoing issues at BMR are the erosion on the red trail and the trees down on the trails.

Old Business / Key Initiatives:

BMR/SRG Mowing: The BMR meadow is due for mowing. The contractor may have to find another way, possibly using an abutting driveway, to access the big meadow.

Meadow management: The meadows at BMR are scheduled to be mowed in October or November.

Budget management: Lin reported that there is an issue over the porta-potty at BMR. It's possible we have been double paying as the Highway Department also contracts with the company. Lin is working with the Finance Department to resolve the matter

Old Quarry Nature Center: Lin reported that the electric bill has risen steeply. The only electric being used is for the alarm system and motion/flood lights.

Added layer of protection for major parks: Nothing new.

New Business:

Erosion at BMR: Lin will speak to Duke Hart again.

Progress of Open Space Bond Issue Properties: Will be discussed at the next meeting.

OQNC issues and progress: Already discussed in above minutes.

Website update: Nothing new to report.

Ed made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brian, and approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., Room 3C, City Hall.

Submitted by: Shaun McColgan – Commission Secretary.
10/25/2011