



**Waterbury Conservation Commission
Minutes (Draft)
April 14, 2020
Via teleconference**

Commission attendees: Allan Thompson, Erin Hurley, Mike Hedges, Joan Beard, Billy Vigdor, Tracy Sweeney, Steve Hagenbuch

Commission absent: Krista Battles

Public: Linda Gilpin

- Meeting convened 6:00 pm
- Minutes from February 2020 meeting reviewed. Mike Hedges made a motion to approve. Seconded by Erin Hurley. Minutes approved.
- A request has been made to the Select Board for Linda Gilpin to be appointed to the WCC, filling a vacant seat. Linda is awaiting an invitation to attend a Select Board for the appointment to be made.
- Unified Development Bylaws
 - The WCC has been preparing a proposal that would identify a high priority area to conserve in order to protect wildlife migratory patterns, forest connectivity and wildlife habitat. Reviewed map of the high priority area. Joan Beard suggested that a map be created specifically for the Planning Commission that shows parcels in the priority area that already have a conservation easement or have long-term conservation through other means (e.g. state land). Billy Vigdor seconded this suggestion as it could show the impacts of the proposed new Unified Development Bylaws around the high priority wildlife area may not be as big as it would appear.
 - Review of sections
 - Title – it was mentioned that the current title “RIDGELINES, HILLSIDES, AND STEEP SLOPES AND HIGH PRIORITY WILDLIFE CORRIDORS (RHSWC) OVERLAY DISTRICT” is a bit of a mouthful but there was agreement that it is important to show the details
 - 3.4.2.B – Steve Hagenbuch raised the question as to who should be the entity officially delineating the high priority area. WCC? ANR? Other? A discussion ensued by no resolution was made.



- 3.4.2.D – Billy Vigdor will add language that communications towers are not permitted in the proposed RHSWC Overlay District
- 3.4.2.E (3) – what does WCC evaluation of a proposed development project accomplish? Is there a role for WCC in this regard? Suggestion was made to change language to “may provide a recommendation or supplemental evaluation”. Another question raised was whether WCC would need to have consensus on a project in order to make recommendations? More discussion is needed here.
- 3.4.2.G – add “high priority wildlife corridors”
- It was noted that although WCC believes other areas of the Unified Development Bylaws could use language revisions in order to enhance their ability to protect natural resources, it was agreed upon that now is not necessarily the time to do so.
- Commissioners were asked to make any additional comments prior to the May 2020 meeting.
- Transportation update
 - Mike Hedges shared that conversations with VTRANS indicated that the wildlife corridor signs on RT 100 were scheduled to go during the week of April 14, 2020.
- Meeting adjourned 7:35 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Steve Hagenbuch, May 12, 2020