

Waterbury Conservation Commission
Minutes
Draft September 9, 2020 Meeting
Via videoconference

Commission attendees: Allan Thompson (Chair), Billy Vigdor, Mike Hedges, Erin Hurley, Tracy Sweeney, Joan Beard, and Linda Gilpin

Commission absences: Krista Battles, Steve Hagenbuch

Meeting convened 6:00 pm

- Minutes from the August 11, 2020 meeting were approved
- The process for publicizing and reporting on meetings was clarified. Agendas should be posted publicly and submitted to Carla three business days before a meeting, and minutes sent to her within five days after, with approval at the following meeting.
- Erin will share the invasive species videos she and Mike have been working on and then edit them for posting on the WCC website. She, Krista, and Allan will be meeting with Jamie Benson about the website next week. Suggestions for website features included:
 - videos from the game camera updated quarterly
 - wildlife images
 - map
 - WCC mission statement and membership list
 - meeting agendas and minutes
 - an events page
 - information on Shutesville Hill Wildlife Corridor
 - links to partnering organizations
 - information on topics like invasives with links to YouTube and other resources
 - features that require frequent updating or creating original content should be avoided

Mike will check with Carla on whether the Town has specific website standards.

- The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing projects before the Development Review Board (DRB) and the appropriate role of the WCC and individual commissioners in offering input. According to WCC bylaws, the Commission has the authority to speak out about conservation issues and how they are considered in project reviews. But it is important to be thoughtful and strategic about when and how to do so. Developing a relationship between the WCC and DRB will be discussed at a future meeting. Commission members are encouraged to attend DRB meetings in an individual capacity, but to be certain that they are well informed about projects under review. Mike will ask to have WCC members copied on DRB agendas and minutes.

Discussion of WCC bylaws was postponed.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Linda Gilpin, September 15, 2020