MINUTES OF THE WOODBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL MAIN MEETING ROOM
OCTOBER 20, 2022

Members present were the following: Chairman Tim Austin, Commissioner Paul Harrigan, Sharon DeKadt, Barbara Hagan, Valerie King, Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Kate Rozen & Cathy Trzaski, Clerk

The meeting came to order at 07:32pm

There was no public comment.

Chairman Tim Austin made the MOTION to Approve the Minutes with Corrections from September 15, 2022 and Commissioner Paul Harrigan SECONDED the MOTION. All in Favor

First matter for discussion was the “Woodbridge Like Me Day” that Valerie King, Barbara Hagan, and Sharon deKadt attended. They talked a lot about the trails and how much residents use them.

The Commission discussed the last meeting with Anthony Genovese and they all agreed it was a great presentation. They all basically agree they need more information on grants. They need to know how open space is figured ie: how large the lot is or the monetary value.

The next topic of discussion was the Budget Programs---where we ask the Town to fund different items of concern. Safety signage is the first funding the Board would like to discuss.

Kate Rozen then informed the Committee about the danger/worry of “Jumping Worms” in Woodbridge. Jumping worms live in the top 5 inches of soil, the soil turns to like coffee grinds, there is no cure once you have them, they lay cocoons in the winter, and when you touch the worms they jump. Kate would like to schedule an Educational Seminar at the Library with a Dr. Anise Dobson, regarding “jumping worms in Woodbridge”. Ideally in the Spring, and contact the Parks & Rec, Land Trust, Garden Club, Massaro Farms, and the Agricultural Commission to all take part in this seminar.

The Commission also discussed where Boots brushes need to go---need to identify locations to put these.

Sharon deKadt made a MOTION for Executive Session regarding Personnel Matters and Kate Rozen SECONDED the MOTION. All in Favor

Executive Session began at 08:10pm and ended at 08:31pm with No Decisions Being Taken.

Commissioner Paul Harrigan gave the Committee new information regarding Tree Ordinances. Towns like Westport, Greenwich, Hartford, and Ridgefield have detailed Ordinances in place. Ordinances would restrict areas that trees will be allowed to be taken down, etc. Some Towns have a 25 foot boundary for new/existing lots that the trees can’t be removed. Need to decide what percent of trees would be allowed on a lot. Barbara Hagan, Commissioner Paul Harrigan and Diana McCarthy-Bercury will be meeting to work on this further.

Update on Merritt Avenue subdivision—John Paul Garcia is working on the plan for the Town Planning & Zoning.
356 Rimmon Road—there is a generous offer for Open Space---Owner offered a 20 ft easement across the back of the property. The easement will need to be deeded to the Town.

124 Seymour Road – nothing new to add. There was a need identified to reach out to the Owners of the Property to see if they are interested in easements, etc.

Some members expressed that at the next meeting they can solidify the Greenway Plan so it can move through the channels to be adopted.

Diana McCarthy-Bercury made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting and Barbara Hagan SECONDED the MOTION. All in Favor

Meeting adjourned at 09:30pm

The next meeting will be November 17, 2022 at 07:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Trzaski
Clerk of the Commission