

**TOWN OF GRANBY  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
VIA ZOOM  
MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 11, 2023**

**PRESENT:** David Roberts, Chairman; David Desiderato, Mindy Gould, Zachary Donais

**GUESTS:** Puji Masireddy and Ace Ricker, Sustainable CT

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman David Roberts confirmed a quorum and called the meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:02 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 13, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

ON A MOTION By D. Desiderato, seconded by M. Gould, the commission voted unanimously (4-0-0) to approve the minutes of June 13, 2023 as written.

**4. UPDATES ON SUSTAINABLE CT**

Currently, a total of 212 points have been accumulated. D. Roberts noted that conversations with Jessica LeClair, Ace and Puji have been beneficial.

- Action Item 2 - 2.2.1 – Participate in Sustainable Procurement Training: Webinar will be forwarded to be viewed. This will complete Item 2. D. Desiderato will watch video and document such.
- Action Item 6 – 6.1.2 – Participate in Complete Street Training. D. Desiderato will view this as well. J. LeClair will forward the videos tomorrow.
- Action Item 6.1.6 was written in reference to bicycles. Sustainable CT looking for ‘community improvement.’ For example, documentation regarding the traffic circle in the north end of town made it safer for pedestrians by including sidewalks and warning signs. Also, improvements to the intersection in the center have increased safety.
- Action item 11.1.1. – A grading mistake was initially made and that has been rectified with ten points awarded.
- There may be an issue with Action Items 11.1.2 and .3 and should be reviewed. P. Masireddy will speak with M. Gould regarding this after the meeting.
- Action Item 12 Homeless was K. Lawton. Five points should be awarded. A minimum of three trainings are needed to get 15 points.
- Although there are enough points for Bronze, better documentation is needed.
- 6.1.6: M. Gould will document information regarding traffic circle and sidewalk. D. Roberts noted that photos can be included.
- D. Roberts will re-write Action Item 1. He will also mark Action Item 11.1. as complete. After it is judged, ten points will be awarded.

**5. INVASIVE SPECIES UPDATE – Z. DONAIS**

Z. Donais noted he spoke to A. Kenyon this afternoon and she had not yet seen the submission for Planning & Zoning regarding invasives. She noted Planning and Zoning does not meet in August so this

will be added to one of the two meetings held in September. K. Kane will send information to A. Kenyon and Mark Fiorentino for their review.

## **6. TOWN CENTER UPDATE – K. MARSHALL**

This item will be postponed to the next meeting.

## **7. COMPOSTING**

- Z. Donais noted he works in the Materials Management Division in DEEP. He believes there may be someone who could speak to the commission at a future meeting regarding what other towns are doing regarding composting.
- M. Gould noted she is willing to look at all ideas regarding composting.
- It was noted Sustainable CT has a “community match fund” where Towns can receive a matching grant for composting. However, it does expire on August 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ON A MOTION by D. Desiderato, seconded by M. Gould, the commission voted 4-0-0 to submit a Sustainable CT Matching Grant (1.5 to 1) to the Board of Selectmen for purchasing composting containers for the town residents with a recommendation that the Town putting in up to \$10,000 (for \$10,000, the Town would receive \$15,00) so it would be const neutral for the Town by asking residents to subsidize part of the cost of the containers. D. Desiderato will write the grant. K. Kane will let Mark Fiorentino know the committee is recommending this action. D. Roberts and M. Gould will discuss how to proceed, what is needed, cost, etc.

## **8. MEETING TOPICS FOR AUGUST 8, 2023**

- Review Minutes
- Final Updates regarding Sustainable CT
- Invasive Species Update
- Town Center Update Conversation
- Composting Topic (Possible Speaker)

## **9. FINAL COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

- D. Desiderato will write the July/August Drummer article on the spotted lantern fly and the tree of heaven. He also noted if residents have questions regarding possible invasives at their home, they can ask a commission member to check it out. D. Roberts suggested having this offer printed as a “running box” in every Drummer issue. D. Roberts also suggested D. Desiderato look into speaking on invasives at the Men’s Breakfast Group at the Senior Center.

## **10. ADJOURN**

ON A MOTION BY Z. Donais, seconded by M. Gould, the commission voted unanimously (4-0-0) to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kane  
Recording Secretary