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By Linda Amerighi at 1:13 pm, Jan 23, 2024

Sharon Conservation Commission
Minutes of Regular meeting, January 17, 2024

Attending: Claudia Cayne, Carl Chaiet, Cicely Hajek, Jim Krissel, Pieter Lefferts, Bethany Sheffer and Johannes Van Der Tuin, Chair.

Also attending: Katie Kinsolving

The meeting was called to order at 6:35.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Minutes for approval: Last Regular Meeting, November 15, 2023.
A motion to accept was made by Jim, seconded by Pieter and approved unanimously.
2. Energy and Environment attendance - report.
Pieter reported that there will be a road cleanup on April 20 and SEEC is looking for input on potential routes. Bethany will attend the next SEEC meeting.
3. Smith Road phragmites boardwalk.
Bethany will update regarding potential cost and implementation process.
4. Herbicide on White Hollow Road.
Katie indicated that the selectmen are working with SEEC on drafting a letter. SCC will endorse pending receipt of the draft letter.
5. Discussion of new commissioner candidates.
Claudia stated that May will be her last meeting. Johannes will follow-up with Casey Flanagan on a new member.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Opportunities to strengthen cooperation with fellow commissions.
Claudia read the mission statements of SEEC and SCC and everyone offered their thoughts on how the missions overlap.

There was also discussion about whether or not Conservation Commissions are required in Connecticut. Claudia read the relevant statute and it is not required. Claudia pointed out that towns are required to update their Natural Resources Inventory every ten years to be eligible for funding. Sharon's is due in 2026 and has been done by SCC in the past.

A motion was made by Johannes, seconded by Jim, to talk to Casey regarding SCC's interest in exploring and deepening the relationship with SEEC considering the overlapping missions. It was approved by all but Cicly.

A motion was made by Johannes, seconded by Jim, to reach out to SEEC to see if there was interest in a SEEC member filling the next vacancy on SCC. It was approved unanimously.

2. Proposed Joray Rd. extension.

Johannes reported that information provided to him indicated a 140' extension from the Route 4 access point. It will next be taken up by P&Z to see if this comports with the Plan of Conservation and Development.

A motion was made by Jim, seconded by Pieter, to seek more detail on the proposal and was approved unanimously.

ADDITIONAL ITEM:

3. Budget for the next fiscal year.

Our budget has been flat at \$3000 for the past several years. After discussion, a motion was made by Claudia, seconded by Jim and approved unanimously to request \$5000.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:41 by Jim, seconded by Bethany and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia E Cayne, Secretary