

Killingworth Conservation Commission
Town Office Building
323 Route 81, Killingworth CT 06419

KCC Meeting minutes for Thursday, July 11, 2024, 7:08pm

This was a virtual meeting.

1. Call to order:
2. Attendance: Jim Fullmer, Alec Martin, Guy Vecchitto, Stephanie Warren
Absent: Marilyn Campbell, Katie Digianantonio, Roslyn Reeps
3. Visitors: None
4. Approval of minutes of June 13,2024 Vecchitto made motion to approve. Seconded by Fullmer. Unanimously approved.
5. Communications/Correspondence
 - * General Correspondence Update: None to report.
 - Organization Information:

CACIWC: Warren reports the KCC membership dues to CACIWC is now due. The membership dues are \$65 and requires a motion and vote by the KCC. Vecchitto made a motion to approve the dues. Seconded by Fullmer. Unanimously approved.

Warren also reports that CACIWC is planning a major conference on November16,2024 for their 50th anniversary. The cost to attend is \$75 per person. Warren believes it would be a good event for all of us to attend; she will try to find some subsidizing money or a grant which would allow us all to attend. All thought it was a good idea.

Warren said the CACIWC website also reported the mile a minute invasive plant first found in Connecticut in 1997 has now spread all throughout the state. And lastly, the CACIWC Habitat newspaper is now up to date.

CFPA: Warren reports on the CFPA website there is an interactive map which shows connections between formally reconized trails and the blue – blazed trails which can be enlarged for more detail. Warren recommends we should check it out.
- Rockfall: Guy Vecchitto reports on July 18,2024 at Conspiracy Restaurant 350 Main St from 5:30pm to 7:30pm The Meet Your Greens Event will present Bill “ MR Fix It” Agli. Bill will talk on how homeowners can make repairs to household items to reduce unnecessary disposal to landfills. Vecchitto also reports

on June 26,2024 the Dekoven House, which is home for the Rockfall Foundation, sustantained damage to the roof and chimney when a tree fell onto the house during a severe thunderstorm. Rockfall is requesting individuals to send donations to help with the cost of repairs, since insurance will not cover all the repairs.

- Legislative/Conservation news from CLCV: No Update

6. Reports of Officers, Committees, and Organizations

- Parmelee Farm: Jim Fullmer reports there will be Car Cruise on July 14,2024. On July 19th the band Berkshires will be preforming, on July 21,2024 at 5pm the US Coast Guard Band will be be putting on a concert. On August 2, 2024 The Engine Room band will be preforming, on August 11th there will be a car cruise at 3pm and a concert at 5pm.On August16th there will a concert. On September 7th The Artisan Market will start at 10am. There will be a Car Cruise at 3pm and a concert at 5pm on September 8th.

- Historical Society: Jim Fullmer: Nothing to report.

- LCVRPC: Alec Martin, Stephanie Warren: Alec Martin reports there was much discussion on the gateway area. There is a developer who is proposing a project that would construct buildings which would be up to 60 feet high in the town of Westbrook. The developer is asking the planning and Zoning Commission to change the current maximum height of 40 feet to 60 feet. There are citizens from multiple towns who are concerned if this change is made, 60 foot buildings will start to rise up in many communities. These 60 foot high structures will unfortunately be above the tree canopy. In turn the views and the natural settings will be negatively impacted, ultimately changing the whole areas character.

- KCC Education Projects: Stephanie Warren: Warren reports she meet with Jen Fig the Youth Services Librarian and worked for half an hour learning to make a butterfly out of popsicle sticks, a pipe cleaner, and yarn. They are doing a program on Monarch Butterflies next week where they will be teaching kids about the Monarch's and teaching them how to make their own Monarch's with the yarn etc on hand. On July 31st they also will host a program on beavers. In August the kids contest will be held and will focus on meet your wildlife neighbors.They could choose bear ,deer, or coyote, and learn about them.

- KLCT: Marilyn Campbell: No report

7. Old Business

- * Solar power question Re: Town Hall : Stephanie Warren reports she met with our First Selectman to discuss the question on solar power. Warren was informed by First Selectman Eric Couture that the town has received a grant to make repairs to the Town Hall Barn building and he thinks the grant also covers the installation of solar panels on the barn. There was some discussion by the committee on the condition of the barn and the grant.

Recycling Update: Stephanie Warren reports the textile recycling program has collected approximately 1,500 pounds of textiles in the month of May. Warren along with the committee were very pleased with the programs success.

Chemical use for controlling weed growth on town roads. Warren mentioned this issue to the First Selectman who was quite interested. Warren will follow up with Marilyn Campbell (who brought this issue up at our last KCC meeting) and encourage her to go and speak with the First Selectman and see what is being done. The committee was pleased discussions will be taking place.

8. New Business

Chester Fair 2024 is seeking volunteers for recycling: Warren reports the Chester Fair is in need of volunteers from non -profits to assist with trash recycling at the end of each day of the fair. Each volunteer would be paid \$10 an hour. The money would go to the volunteer's non – profit group.

- General Member Announcements: Jim Fullmer reports the Moon is now visible in the early evening now and will remain so until about the 21st. The big event is coming August 11th and 12th when the Perseid Meteor showers arrive.

Alec Martin is working on having Gail Reynolds ,who has written books on trees and shrubs , to come and give a presentation on Tree mortality in Connecticut. Alec will contact the Library to try and schedule a date in October for Gail to give her presentation.

Warren reports we are still getting some good feedback on the Dark Skies Program our KCC presented to the community.

Adjournment: Jim Fullmer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Guy Vecchitto. Motion Approved.

Adjourned at 7:48pm

Respectfully submitted by Guy Vecchitto

9. Adjournment:

Next KCC Meeting: Thursday, November 10,2022, at - 7:00 pm. This may be another virtual meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by: