

**TOWN OF GRANBY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
VIA ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 13, 2023**

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

GUEST: Puji Masireddy, Sustainable CT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Roberts confirmed a quorum and called the meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MAY 9, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

ON A MOTION By D. Desiderato, seconded by M. Gould, the commission voted unanimously (5-0-0) to approve the minutes of May 9, 2023 as written.

4. NON-INVASIVE ORDINANCE

The commission reviewed a memo regarding invasive species composed by D. Desiderato to be forwarded to Planning and Zoning. The memo refers to specific development at Cider Mill Heights.

Three main points to be included:

1. Landscaping plans including invasive plants as identified by Connecticut Invasive Plants Council shall not be permitted.
2. Plans shall contain 100% Connecticut native species.
3. Cleared areas not be mowed regularly should be seeded with a mix of native grasses and native pollinator friendly species.

ON A MOTION By M. Gould, seconded by K. McCord, the Commission voted unanimously (5-0-0) to pass the memo to K. Kane to forward to Abby Kenyon for the Planning & Zoning Commission.

5. SUSTAINABLE CT UPDATES

D. Roberts reported on the Commission's second submission to Sustainable CT. Although a total of 205 points were received, it still did not qualify for Bronze Status. M. Gould was concerned that previously obtained points were taken away.

The following items need additional information:

- Item #1 (D. Roberts point of contact)
- Item #6 (K. Marshall point of contact)

Items #11 (M. Gould point of contact)

Items #12 (K. Lawton was point of contact, now K. McCord)

Puji Masirredy, a Sustainable CT Fellow, introduced herself and stated she previously reviewed Granby's profile. She noted there are some problems with documentation but believes Bronze Status is an achievable goal this year. She will look at the feedback given by Sustainable CT and will delve deeper into items 1, 6, 11 and 12 and let the commission know why points weren't given, as well as next steps. It was noted Sustainable CT has different reviewers for different item numbers.

The commission agreed they would like to proceed to work toward Sustainable CT certification. They will work with Puji as their POC, and also an Equity Coach, and D. Roberts will be her contact. The deadline for submission is August 15th.

6. COMMUNITY UPDATES (DRUMMER ARTICLE/LIBRARY PROGRAM)

- The Commission will have a table at Juneteenth, but M. Gould is unable to set it up. D. Roberts will be at the DTC table. D. Desiderato offered to set up the Commission's table and take it down at the end of the day. M. Gould and D. Desiderato will put the material together. M. Gould asked Commission members to let her know if they can attend the event.
- Drummer Articles – D. Desiderato will do an article on invasives for the July/August edition. No feedback has been received regarding the mosquito article from the June edition.
- No library programs will be held during the summer.

7. FUTURE OF TOWN CENTER – Item postponed to July meeting.

8. MEETING TOPICS FOR JULY 11, 2023

- Updates on Sustainable CT
- Update from Z. Donais regarding Invasive Species
- Update on Town Center (K. Marshall)
- Composting

9. FINAL COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

M. Gould stated she will finish Item #11 on Sustainable CT and will then end her time on the Commission.

10. ADJOURN

ON A MOTION BY M. Gould, seconded by K. McCord, the commission voted unanimously (5-0-0) to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kane
Recording Secretary