



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING**

Thursday October 19, 2017 6:00 PM
Visitor Center 14 North Street

**MINUTES
Approved 11/9/2017**

Mr. Dickerman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and asked for a roll call.

I. Roll Call

Present: Gary Dickerman, Steve Wood, Scott Magnuson, Eileen Skowronski, Kim Gogan
Absent: Nick Koloski

II. Review of Minutes of Preceding Meeting(s)

a. September 21, 2017

Corrections:

1. Page 2: *A trail bike came onto the property when Mr. Dickerman ~~and Mr. Wood were~~ was there, but ~~they~~ he did not see or speak with the rider.*
2. Page 2: *Mr. Dickerman is opposed to spending any Commission funds on the ~~trail~~ survey*

Motion: To accept the minutes as corrected.

Made by: Mr. Wood **Second:** Ms. Skowronski

Vote: Unanimous in favor

III. Finance Report

The Commission reviewed the most recent financial report and noted recent expenditures. Everything seemed to be in order.

City Treasurer, Lisa Richmond, emailed a brief history of the source of the Commission's funds. Some of it remains a mystery however.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Old Business

a. Pollinator Garden Update (E. Skowronski)

Ms. Skowronski said that she and Mrs. Harlow had completed planting the garden in the intersection of Broad and Chestnut Streets. Ms. Skowronski has been watering it every day – it seems to have survived the first frost and is doing well.

The Commission will work on signage for the garden over the winter.

b. **Stevens Brook**

i. **Prohibited Activities Sign – posting update**

No more signs have been put up. However, Mr. Dickerman is planning to continue this Saturday (the 21st).

The silt fencing still needs to be removed. The deerstands are still in place (as are the letters written to the owners). Mr. Dickerman will continue to check on them.

ii. **Trail Layout**

We have not heard back from SCA about the trail. DeForest was asked to follow up with them.

iii. **Water Quality Monitoring Program**

No update yet.

c. **Rail Trail**

i. **Survey**

No update yet.

ii. **Master Plan – Next steps**

The consensus of the Commission was to move forward with the information at hand.

iii. **Replacement retaining wall**

Nancy Merrill is looking into the legal ramifications of the retaining wall that was rebuilt entirely within the rail trail right-of-way without the City's permission.

iv. **Hazardous Trees**

The hazardous trees on Washington Street have been removed. There are still a few others that need to come down in the stretch between the community center and Chestnut Street.

Mr. Wood said he had seen several "Keep Out" signs on the edge of the trail just after the bridge near Reeds Trucking, perhaps within the right-of-way? He also wondered if it was legal to park trucks so close to the river. Also, some of the boards on the bridge are curled enough to be a trip hazard. (Some of the Commissioners might be able to fix them with some extra-long screws.)

VI. New Business

a. **Stevens Brook Access**

The Commissioners are interested in approaching Mr. Osgood about purchasing additional easement area to provide a permanent access and parking area. The consensus was to try for access via the North Street frontage. The site is wide

enough to provide parallel parking. Mr. Dickerman will try to talk to Mr. Osgood about it.

b. Maple Ave School

The possibility of developing access to Moody Park from the Maple Avenue school was discussed. Mr. Dickerman will speak to Mark Brislin about it.

VII. Communications

NHDES Wetland Permit by Notification submission for the dry hydrant was submitted to DEH on October 16th.

VIII. Other Business

IX. Future Agenda Items

a. The next regular meeting will be on November 9th.

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

Made by: Ms. Gogan **Second:** Mr. Magnuson

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

de Forest Bearse