

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
MEETING OF February 11, 2016 7:00 PM  
POMFRET SENIOR CENTER**

Members present: Pam Cartledge (Chair) Liz Cartier, Cheryl Kapelner-Champ, Marcia Lewis, William Lewis, and Walter McGinn.

Members absent: Mary Eliza Kimball, Richard Telford (Vice Chairman).

**I. Call to order at 7:05 PM**

**II. Seat Alternate as needed – none needed.**

**III. Items to be added to the Agenda –** Presentation by Jean Pillo of Eastern Connecticut Conservation District.

**IV. Presentation of Ms. Pillo**

Chronic elevated bacteria levels have created swimming issues at Mashamoquet Brook State Park. A watershed study of Abington Brook, White Brook, Mashamoquet Brook reveals that they have bacteria levels above state limits. Agriculture, older septic systems are possible sources. Small farms contribute via manure storage. Porous ground allows waste to flow untreated to waterways from failing septic systems or via surface overflow.

A watershed based plan to remediate has been accepted by state. It targets failing systems. Oldest homes are the highest priority. A grant is available to eligible residents allowing \$2000 to assist with system replacement.

An informational program is planned. Pomfret residents will receive a file folder to assist documenting septic systems, brochure about septic maintenance. A presentation is planned to educate public about septic system care sometime in March or April. It will encourage public to maintain systems, take advantage of available funding.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Eastern Connecticut Conservation district and the Town of Pomfret establishes a framework of cooperation. Pomfret agrees to assist with the educational component. Commission is requested to support this. Commission is requested to sponsor an educational workshop. Possible sites are Audubon or PCS.

**MOTION:** “I move that we recommend to the first Selectman that the MOU with the ECCD be signed.” Maker: Bill. Second: Liz. Approved unanimously.

**V. Approve Minutes of January 14, 2016 – MOTION:** “I move that we accept the minutes of January, 14, 2016.” Maker: Liz. Second: Marcia. Approved unanimously.

**VI. Citizens Participation – None.**

**VII. Selectman’s Liaison -** Jorge Martinez represented Mr. Baldwin

Connecticut Trails and Park Association sponsors a trail day. Walktober organized by Last Green Valley. Selectman requests participation. Documents provided for participation.

Budget discussion. Grand list down 5%.

**VII. Unfinished Business**

- a. P&Z plan- Pam will follow up with W Hinchman.
- b. Fracking- Offer of assistance was received by Cheryl from unknown organization.
- c. CT Trails Weekend- June 4 & 5. Eliza has recommended a 5 mile hike in Baker Hollow. Follow up next month.

**VIII. New Business**

- a. Stonewall Ordinance- Selectman requests review. Date draft, send to P & Z. Town meeting due in May or June. Jorge will provide copy of original proposal. Includes limiting ordinance to town property.
- b. Memorandum of Understanding- See Section IV.
- c. Lois Orswell- Article to Pomfret Times requesting nominees being prepared by Pam.

**IX. Reports of other town committees, subcommittees and workshops**

Liz reports budget preparations underway. 0.25% school increase. 0% town increase. Grand list decrease is 5%.

**X. Communications and Mail**

2016 Connecticut Land Conservation Conference registration form received.

**XI. Citizens Participation – None.**

**XII. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** "Motion to adjourn". Maker: Liz. Second: Bill. Approved unanimously at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter McGinn , Clerk *pro tem*

***Minutes approved 3-10-16 with modification.***