

**TOWN OF CHESHIRE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL ROOM 210 AT 7:00 P.M.**

Members present: Bill Sherman, Matt Abdifar, Dave Mercugliano and Carrie Collins-White.

Members not present: Bob DeVlyder, Jodee Heritage and Daniel Grasso.

Staff: Suzanne Simone.

Ms. Collins-White served as secretary pro-tem in Jodee Heritage's absence.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

II. Roll Call

Ms. Heritage called the roll.

Members present were Bill Sherman, Matt Abdifar, Dave Mercugliano and Carrie Collins-White.

**III. Determination of Quorum
Commissioner Attendance Summary**

Members not in attendance were Bob DeVlyder, Jodee Heritage and Daniel Grasso.

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the pledge of allegiance.

**V. Acceptance of Minutes Regular Meeting December 10, 2014
Regular Meeting February 11, 2015**

Motion: To approve the minutes from the regular meetings of December 10, 2014 and February 11, 2015 with no corrections.

Moved by Mr. Mercugliano. Seconded by Mr. Abdifar. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

V. Election of Officers

Chairman Sherman opened the floor for the election of officers.

Mr. Mercugliano nominated Bill Sherman as chairman. Mr. Abdifar seconded the nomination. Mr. Sherman accepted the nomination. All present were in favor of the nomination.

Ms. Collins- White nominated Robert DeVyllder as vice-chair. Mr. Mercugliano seconded the nomination. Mr. DeVyllder was not present to accept the nomination but informed the Commission prior to tonight's elections that he was willing to serve as vice-chair for another term. All present were in favor of the nomination.

Mr. Abdifar nominated Jodee Heritage as secretary. Ms. Collins-White seconded the nomination. Ms. Heritage not present to accept the nomination but informed the Commission prior to tonight's elections that she was willing to serve as secretary for another term. All present were in favor of the nomination.

There were no other nominations entertained.

Chairman Sherman closed the nominations.

The elected slate of officers for 2015: Bill Sherman as chair, Robert DeVyllder as vice-chair and Jodee Heritage as secretary.

The Commission discussed Daniel Grasso's appointment to the Commission and what sets could be taken regarding his attendance at meetings.

Ms. Simone informed members that the town clerk can send a letter Mr. Grasso regarding his status on the Commission after six consecutive months of meetings are missed (which applies in this case).

Motion: That the Environment Commission request that a letter be sent to Daniel Grasso seeking his resignation or recommitment to the Environment Commission.

Moved by Mr. Mercugliano. Ms. Collins-White seconded. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

VI. Communications

Chairman Sherman reported there were no communications this month.

VII. Calendar – Events

1. Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Chairman Sherman reported the Earth Day event details would be covered under unfinished business.

VIII. Unfinished Business

1. Earth Day 2015: Events –Ten Mile Lowlands

Ms. Simone shared with Commission members a copy of the “Think Spring” flyer listing the schedule of event dates and times taking place over the next few months. She talked about some of the events taking place prior to April.

Ms. Simone talked about the opportunity to have a hike at Ten Miles Lowlands.

Chairman Sherman expressed interest in the Commission hosting a hike at the Ten Miles Lowlands location.

Commission members discussed a proposed date for the hike and other details.

Motion: That the Environment Commission would schedule a hike of the Ten Miles Lowlands on Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Moved by Ms. Collins-White. Mr. Abdifar seconded. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

Ms. Collins-White, Chairman Sherman and possible other members would be available to help out at the hike.

Ms. Simone said she could make flyers and showcase the April 25 event at the April 6 event.

2. Town Naming Policy

Chairman Sherman reported that he and Mr. DeVylder have not been able to work on a letter regarding the renaming of the Dime Savings Bank property.

Chairman Sherman asked that this item be carried over to the next meeting.

3. Rotary Club Presentation

Chairman Sherman reported on his presentation to the Rotary Club in January 2015. He explained he passed out a paper version of a PowerPoint presentation for informational purposes; also providing trail handouts, open space maps and business card.

Chairman Sherman talked about getting the word out to other civic groups and organizations about a presentation.

Mr. Mercugliano said there could be opportunities with youth groups, boy scouts and girl scouts and schools to make students aware of town owned open spaces.

Commission members talked about possible opportunities to connect with the community. There was discussion that Mr. Abdifar and Ms. Heritage both have school contacts to get the information out.

4. Property Updates

Ms. Simone explained due to the snow it's been hard to get out to the properties. She did report an incident of someone dumping a large amount of household items on the Casertano property which has since been removed.

Ms. Simone explained that she does conduct a periodic review and monitors activity on several properties including the Casertano and Roaring Brook properties.

IX. New Business

Chairman Sherman stated there was no new business to discuss.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Abdifar. Seconded by Mr. Mercugliano. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

Respectfully submitted by:

**Carla Mills
Recording Secretary**