

**TOWN OF CHESHIRE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016  
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL ROOM 115 AT 7:00 P.M.**

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**Members Present: Bill Sherman, Bob DeVylder, Jodee Heritage, Douglas Noble, Carrie Collins-White, and Jackie Sima.**

**Member Absence: Matt Abdifar.**

**Staff: Suzanne Simone, Environmental Planner.**

**I. Call to Order**

**Chairman Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm**

**II. Roll Call**

**Ms. Heritage called the roll.**

**III. Determination of Quorum**

**There were enough members present for a quorum. Members present were Bill Sherman, Bob DeVylder, Jodee Heritage, Douglas Noble, Carrie Collins-White, and Jackie Sima.**

**Matt Abdifar was not present.**

**IV. Pledge of Allegiance**

**All present recited the pledge of allegiance.**

**V. Acceptance of Minutes Regular Meeting August 10, 2016**

**Chairman Sherman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2016 regular meeting.**

**Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 10, 2016 regular meeting with one correct; page 5 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph change "GTA" to "GZA."**

**Moved by Ms. Sima. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Motion approved 5-0-1 with Ms. Heritage abstaining.**

**VI. Communications**

1. **The Habitat, CACIWC Newsletter, Summer 2016 volume 28 number 3  
(To be handed out at the meeting.)**

**Ms. Simone handed out copies of The Habitat, CACIWC Newsletter.**

**VII. Calendar – Events**

1. **National Public Lands Day, Saturday September 24, 2016**

**Chairman Sherman noted the National Public Lands Day event would be covered under unfinished business.**

2. **The Brooksvale Area & South End of Cheshire Historic Trolley Tour  
Sunday, September 25, 2016**

**Chairman Sherman informed Commission members about an event he was contacted about – it's the Brooksvale Area & South End of Cheshire Historic Trolley Tour taking place on Sunday, September 25, 2016.**

3. **The Cheshire Land Trust Ives Farm Tractor Trot 5K Saturday, October, 29, 2016**

**Chairman Sherman informed Commission members that he received a phone call from Joy Vanderlick about the upcoming Cheshire Land Trust Ives Farm Tractor Trot 5K taking place on Saturday, October, 29, 2016.**

**Chairman Sherman explained that Ms. Vanderlick invited the Commission to set up an information booth at the event.**

**VIII. Unfinished Business**

1. **Recap of Cheshire Fall Festival**

**Ms. Collins-White, Mr. Noble and Mr. DeVylder staffed the Cheshire Fall Festival on Saturday, September 10, 2016.**

**Ms. Collins-White provided the Commission with a recap of what transpired that day including issues with there not being a table or tent at the Commission's venue location as well as a few other logistical issues. She explained that a tent and table were eventually provided.**

**Ms. Collins-White explained that people were interested in the trails maps and the give-a-way bags were very popular.**

**Mr. Nobel also added that the people he spoke with were very interested in the trails and the trail maps.**

**Those who staffed the event agreed that the event was well attended.**

**Mr. DeVlyder noted that there were a few questions asked about the Chapman property and its possible purchase by the town – so that item is on peoples minds.**

**Chairman Sherman thanked those who staffed the festival for their efforts.**

## **2. National Public Lands Day**

**Ms. Simone informed Commission members that in honor of National Public Lands Day there would be a bird walk of Boulder Knoll on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 8:00 am.**

**Ms. Simone explained that the event is being sponsored by the Planning Office and the Quinnipiac Valley Audubon Society.**

**Ms. Simone said the event is being promoted in the town's Facebook page, on the town website and flyers are posted in town buildings. She noted that people should register for the event by calling the Planning Office or emailing her directly.**

**Chairman Sherman said he would be attending the event and would be setting up a table and canopy.**

## **IX. New Business**

### **1. Residential Disposal Press Release**

**Chairman Sherman spoke about the local resources available to dispose of unwanted items.**

**Mr. Noble talking about donating useable items to Goodwill but that it is very difficulty getting grid of large amounts of garbage.**

**Commission members discussed about how residents need to be informed on how they dispose of items such as electronics, mattresses, residential hazardous materials, tires, propane tanks, oil, wood, etc.**

**Mr. Noble said he thought it was important to get the word out to residents where they could dispose of certain items.**

**Ms. Sima mentioned that there is information available on the town website about disposals of certain items – and links were provided to resources.**

**Ms. Simone said that under the Public Works department section (of the town website) it provides information about how residents could dispose of electronics and mattresses (and a few other items).**

**Chairman Sherman said that more communication on this item was a good idea and that he could draft something in terms of a press release for the *Cheshire Herald*; the information could direct people to the town website.**

**Ms. Heritage suggested writing a letter to the *Cheshire Herald* editor about available resources.**

**Mr. Noble also suggested adding an information sheet for new residents' packets (which he received when moving to Cheshire).**

## **2. Discussion of Ben's Homestead Property & Chapman Property**

**Ms. Collins-White asked if there was any information regarding the Ben's Homestead property.**

**Ms. Simone said there was no information from the town attorney.**

**Ms. Sima asked staff about the Chapman property (10-acre property on South Main Street across from Cheshire High School) and if there was any information available.**

**Ms. Simone stated there was not.**

**Mr. DeVlyder said the property (Chapman) has not yet been tested (re: an environmental study and groundwater testing).**

**Ms. Simone stated that if the Commission planned to discussing the Ben's property they would have to add the item to the agenda by majority vote.**

**Motion: To amend the agenda to add discussion regarding the Ben's Homestead property.**

**Moved by Ms. Sima. Seconded by Ms. Collins-White. Motion approved 5-0-1 with Mr. DeVylder abstaining.**

**Mr. Noble informed Commission members that he had information he researched regarding the property agreement for the Ben's Homestead property. He explained that the property is now on the market for \$1.3 million; 19 acres.**

**There was general discussion about the property and some of the issues on the property; and some discussion regarding the purchase of the property.**

**Ms. Simone explained for a point of clarification that when the town purchases property there must be an offer to sell the property to the town and if the Commission wanted to suggest the purchase of a property the request would have to go to the town council (for consideration).**

### **3. Dime Savings Property**

**It was requested that the Dime Savings property naming be added to October's agenda (the next meeting is October 12, 2016).**

## **X. Adjournment**

**Chairman Sherman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm.**

**Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm. Moved by Ms. Heritage. Seconded by Ms. Collins-White. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.**

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Carla Mills  
Recoding Secretary**