

MIDDLEFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

405 Main Street

Middlefield, Connecticut 06455

Meeting location: Room 2

Minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 23, 2022

Call to Order 7:08 p.m.

Members Present: Robin Heath, Chris, Hurlbert, Steven Wolk, and David Cekala

Others Present: Bruce Villwock, Tree Warden for town of Middlefield

Public Comment: none

Approval of Agenda: Chris Hurlbert moved that the agenda be approved as written. Motion seconded by Steven Wolk. Voted on and passed

Approval of Minutes: Chris Hurlbert moved that the minutes be approved as written. Motion seconded by Steven Wolk. Voted on and passed.

Old Business

Discussion of land purchased with OSWA Funding. Those properties include: Strickland Road Property, Steucuk Property off School Street, Pelkey Property off Pickawee Road, and Diconstanzo Property which abuts the dog park. These were listed in a memo from Robin Newton to Ed Bailey dated Sept. 22, 2020.

Trail Cameras. No action has occurred on this topic. Steven Wolk said that he knew of a type that would send their pictures directly to a computer. He will explore this further and will work with Robin to make this purchase as it was authorized at our last meeting.

Maintenance of access road to King Property not discussed.

New Business

Dead Trees along the Trolley Trail. Bruce Villwock stated that per the request of Hannah Malcolm, of Park and Recreation Commission, he had inspected the Trail and identified approximately 30 dead trees. For this reason the trail was closed to the public. Many of these are Ash trees most likely killed by Ash borers. He stated that these trees are very dangerous as they may break or fall without any warning. He related several cases he knew of where people were injured or killed. Bruce said the best solution to the problem is to hire an insured contractor to fell the trees. Chris stated that the Park and Recreation Commission may have some funds that could help pay this expense. It was noted that the trail is quite wet this time of year and the project would be safer to do later in the summer when access is safer.

Haying town properties and bird nesting. It was the general sentiment of the group that, in as much as, we are not responsible for leasing the property we have no authority over the terms and conditions of the lease.

Other New Business: Steven Wolk asked that we look into what is the status of the Coe Hill brush hogging.

Next meeting date: June 27, 2022

Adjournment at 7:37 by acclimation

Future meetings for this year are to be held: June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24, November 28 and December 27.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Heath

c.c. minutes may, 2022

