

**TOWN OF WINDSOR LOCKS  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Darry Ruiter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM at Windsor Locks Town Hall.

**WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONER:** Darry Ruiter welcomed the new Conservation Commission commissioner, Mark Whitten.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**MEMBER ROLL CALL:** Darry Ruiter, Mark Whitten, Roger Nelson and Roger Sullivan (non-voting member) were present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Roger Sullivan made a motion to “**approve the April 23, 2024, meeting minutes**”. Motion was seconded by Darry Ruiter. Without further discussion the motion passed with 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Waterworks Discussion:** Darry Ruiter noted that he hasn't visited the property recently. Roger Sullivan noted that a lot of bicycles and dirt bikes have been on the property. Clarification was asked by Mark Whitten on why bicycles would not be allowed. Darry Ruiter noted that the easement of the property states it does not allow motorized or unmotorized vehicles. A question was raised about the accessibility of wheelchairs. Discussion occurred on who owns the easement and if it can be amended. Darry Ruiter noted that the easement is partially owned by DEEP and The Town of Windsor Locks.

Discussion occurred amongst commissioners on the Canal property/Spring Park and the maintenance of it.

Darry Ruiter noted that town members are stating they are unaware of where the Waterworks property is located. He would like to put up signage under the current marker on South Center Street for the property. It was discussed to get a quote from Public Works and approach ARPA for signage funding.

Darry Ruiter shared that he got a call from a concerned citizen that lives in Westridge Condos. They stated concern that because they can no longer mow the property that they once mowed because it is Waterworks property, they were concerned that the grass is very dry and could start a fire.

Mark Whitten brought up the culverts on the property and the need for repair. It was discussed that pictures will be taken and shared with Public Works.

Discussion occurred on unapproved access points being established on people's private property and the dumping of landscape materials (grass clippings, leaves, etc.) at both the entrance and unapproved access points.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Roger Sullivan made a motion to “**adjourn**”. Motion was seconded by Roger Nelson. Without further discussion the motion passed with 4 in favor and 0 opposed. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Kalenauskas  
Recording Secretary