

BOARD AND COMMISSION SUMMARY MARCH 2022

Arts & Culture Commission

The Arts & Culture Commission met on March 17 at the Joseph N. Goff House. A grant proposal from Aidan Maiorino was reviewed. The members discussed the garden tour/plein air painting event to determine if the Belltown Garden Club is interested in co-hosting. The Rotary Club painted bells were discussed. They would like to spotlight a bell online each week and schedule a tour of the bell locations. The budget request was submitted for review for the next fiscal year. The members also discussed a tour of the town art purchases. They have also approached the new Poet Laureate Stan Lindh for several activities.

Board of Finance

In lieu of the Regular March Meeting of the Board of Finance, the Budget Public Hearing took place on March 21. Budget Workshops followed March 22-26. The deliberation meeting scheduled for March 30 was cancelled with a Special Meeting taking place on March 31 where the BOF members were given a technology tour of the Middle School and Center School. Budget Deliberation is scheduled for April 6, 2022.

Brownfields Redevelopment Agency

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency met on March 28 at the Town Hall and via Zoom. The members discussed the 1-2 year plan for the 3 Walnut property. The members need to find the missing documents that shows the work performed for the project. There is a dam on the property that needs to be investigated since there are no reports or documents stating when the dam was constructed. The members need to find out if the dam is historic. There was discussion on the 1 and 13 Watrous and 13 Summit properties as well. The members decided to apply for the TAB, Technical Assistance on Brownfields, program at UCONN to gain some help. The timeframe for that program is May 15th to July 15th. The application deadline for the program is April 15th. The members discussed which grants the agency should focus on and apply for this year. An investigation grant was mentioned that could help find information on the dam at 3 Walnut. Remediation grants are the other ones the members will be focusing on and looking for this year as well. Two webinars on Brownfields are coming up; one is on March 30th and the other is on April 21st.

Clean Energy Task Force

The Clean Energy Task Force met on March 1 at the Town Hall. A presentation was given by Heat Smart. The members discussed Earthlight and solar possibilities for the town. Members discussed the heat pump and home energy solutions programs. The Chair and Vice Chair met with the Town Manager and will be meeting with the Town department heads regarding Sustainable CT. The next Electric Car Show will be held on September 24th at the High School.

Commission on Aging

The Commission on Aging met on March 10 via Zoom. The members reviewed information from one of the sub-committees for the review of the Survey results. The others will present at the next meeting. The commission is planning presentations of the survey results at the Senior Center and to the Lions Club.

Conservation-Lake Commission

The Conservation-Lake Commission met on March 10th at the Town Hall and via Zoom. The members received updates from the liaisons and about the watershed projects/ federal funding. Tom Warmuth and Dave Finethy joined the call for the presentation from BioSafe Systems about different in-lake treatments for blue-green algae/ cyanobacteria levels in the lake water. The members have some time to think and research about the chemical treatments that were presented to them by the representatives. There were updates for the Lake Smart program and the advisory panel meeting. A Friends of the Lake representative spoke to the commission about incorporating the Lake Smart program into their grant funding program for the year. They budgeted \$5,000 with up to \$150 per house. Once the property has been evaluated the homeowners can apply for funding from the organization's grant to help pay for the Lake Smart changes to their property.

Design Review Board

The Design Review Board met on March 17 via Zoom. The members reviewed and discussed the plans for a site plan modification at 20 East High Street for the old Town Hall building. There needs to be elevation views from all sides of the building/ property, more detailed plans, landscaping plans, elevation and grading plans, and samples of materials being used be brought back to the members to be further reviewed. The members also discussed the possibility of going back to in-person meetings for all boards and commissions. The owners of the gas station in the Village Center were sent a letter about their sign canopy by the Zoning Official Mr. DeCarli. There should be more information at the next meeting.

Economic Development Commission

The Economic Development Commission met on March 15 at the Town Hall and via Zoom. The members reviewed the plans for the Global 66 project and scored the applicant as the members discussed each aspect of the application and scoring form. They awarded the project a score of 47 points. The forms and scoring will be submitted to the Town Council for review and deciding vote. The members reviewed and discussed the 2022/2023 town budget, the Bells on the Bridge event, the project tracker, the sewer smell in the Village Center businesses, and the motions and minutes from the last Planning and Zoning meeting. The new Board of Finance liaison will be Ted Turner.

Fire Commission

The Fire Commission met on March 14 at the Company #1 Firehouse. The members approved the purchase of two strainers for the tankers not to exceed \$2,500 from account 5658. The Fire Chief and Fire Marshal read their reports for the members. There were updates for the dry hydrants, the Ladder truck, the new Tanker, and the awards program. The members discussed briefly sending a letter to the Board of Education to make sure they call the Fire Department when there is smoke within the building and to follow proper fire procedures when an incident like this occurs again.

Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency

The Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency met on March 30 at the Town Hall and via Zoom.

Continued Applications:

- A. Application IW-21-026: William Carter, 23 Bay Road - Construct seawall along Lake Pocotopaug and regrade yard area. Map 09A/ Block 70/ Lot 23 - Continued.

New Applications:

- A. IW-22-002: Heath Marozzi – 59 East High Street, Replace existing walkway, construct retaining wall, replace entry steps, relocate shed, and extend driveway (approximately 550 sq. ft. of disturbance) within the Upland Review Area – Map 05A/ Block 83/ Lot 27 – Continued.

- B. IW-22-003: Roseanne and Chris Scacca, 45 Lake Dr. LLC – 45 Lake Drive, installation of new processed gravel driveway (approximate 1600 s.f.) within the Upland Review Area. – Map 03A/ Block 44C/ Lot 10 – Continued.
- C. IW-22-004: Ed Basile – 53 Day Point Road, demolition of existing cottage (396 s.f.) in Upland Review Area – Map 10A/ Block 83/ Lot 36A – Continued.

Joint Facilities

The Colchester –East Hampton Joint Facilities Board met on February 15 via Zoom. The lighting upgrade is 95% complete. The DO probes have some wiring issues along with the conduit throughout the aeration tanks from the mixer to the recycle pumps. Cost estimate is \$30K-\$40K. An Infrared survey was done on the plant and Middletown Avenue Pump Station (MAPS). The MAPS RFQ is pending schedule dates, to coordinate with Mr. Clayton's time off.

Library Advisory Board

The Library Advisory Board met on March 7 via Zoom. The budget request was sent to the Finance Department. Mr. Cox will be conducting another interview with the final candidate for the Library Director position on March 9. The Kindness Grant project was reviewed.

Middle Haddam Historic District Commission

No meeting

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met on March 1 at the Town Hall and via Zoom. A presentation was given on the Needs Analysis survey from Berry Dunn (formerly Greenplay). The job description for the new Full Time Program Manager was approved. The Air Line Trail Sub-Committee provided an update on trail cleanup day in April. The Seamster Park Golf Tournament will be held on May 19. The High School track and tennis court project should be complete in May. The budget and capital requests were reviewed.

Planning & Zoning Commission

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on March 2 at the Town Hall and via Zoom.

Public Hearings:

- A. Amendment to Zoning Regulations - Sections 2.2, 4.1.B, 4.2.B, 4.3.B, 4.4.B and Addition of Section 8.4.O and 8.4.P to allow for Home Occupations and Home-Based Businesses. Mr. Rux made a motion to approve the Amendments to the Zoning Regulations. Ms. Wright seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0
- B. Enact Opt-Out Provision for Accessory Dwelling Units as Provided for in Section 6(f) of Public Act 21-29. Mr. Rux made a motion to enact the opt-out provision regarding ADUs. Mr. Sennett seconded the motion. Vote: 6-1 (Hintz)

New Business:

- A. PZC-22-001: Josh Pavano, 19 Day Point Road for Detached ADU pursuant to Section 8.4.M in existing accessory structure, Map 10A/Block 83/ Lot 29 Chairman Zatorski made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing for April 6. Mr. Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0
- B. PZC-22-002: Twenty High, LLC for Site Plan Modification to demolish existing accessory building (former Building Dept. structure) in C Zone. – Map 05A/ Block 62/ Lot 5A. Mr. Rux made a motion to approve the site plan modification. Mr. Tammaro seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0

Water Pollution Control Authority

The East Hampton WPCA Board met on February 1 via Zoom. The Board approved the 2022/23 WPCA Operating Budget, totaling \$ 1,878,993.80. Vote: 6-0. Mr. Clayton reported on the odor problem in Village Center and the discussion with Colchester to rectify the issue.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on March 14 at the Town Hall and via Zoom.

Election of Officers:

- A. Mr. Tuttle nominated Mr. Spack as Chairman. Mrs. Jacobson seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.
- B. Mr. Tuttle nominated Mr. Reed as Vice Chairman. Mr. Pfaffenbach seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

Public Hearings:

- A. Application ZBA-22-001: Twenty High, LLC, 20 East High Street for a variance to increase lot coverage from 75.5% to 85% in C Zone – Map 05A/Block 62/ Lot 5A. Mr. Pfaffenbach made a motion to approve the variance. Mrs. Jacobson seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

New Business:

- A. Application ZBA-22-002: Atlantis Marketing, 1 Colchester Ave., 5 Colchester Ave. and 157 Main St for a variance to increase lot coverage from 30.4% to 36.9% and reconstruction and expansion of legal non-conforming uses in the R-2 Zone. Map 7A/ Block 56/ Lots 22, 21, and 24. Mr. Tuttle made a motion to set a Public Hearing for April 11, 2022. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.