

MINUTES: The Natural Resources and Open Space Commission held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at :30 p.m. in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following items were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Mr. Horn, Mr. Vitali, Ms. Larke, Mr. Repasz, Dr. McManus, Dr. Doheny, Mr. Nista

Commissioners Excused: Mr. Bell

Commissioners Absent: Mr. Pearce, Mr. Bailin, Mr. Knott

Others in Attendance: Ms. Tobin, Meeting Clerk

Call to Order

Mr. Horn called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Review minutes of November 20, 2019

The November meeting was informal as there was not a quorum available. There is no need to approve.

Continuing Business

Mr. Horn reported that the Watershed letter went to Senator Logan. The DEEP will purchase the property. The civic association held a pot luck dinner and conference call with the head land acquisition person. Dr. Doheny was there. Letters were sent by several people/organizations in addition to ours including Mr. Kops, the Land Trust, and Legislators Looney, Logan, D'Agostino and Porter also signed, requesting the state to purchase the properties, and the bill says thou shall purchase.

Dr. Doheny mentioned that March 3rd is the annual Park Day at the Capitol on the concourse.

The Beers Property goes back to the Council for a vote on Monday, March 2nd. At the last meeting about a dozen people spoke including the Beers family. This is a 40 acre parcel. The State and the Land Trust want easements on the property. The state provided a \$400,000 grant toward the purchase of this property and the Land Trust is making an effort to raise funds toward the purchase. The Town would be responsible for the remainder of the purchase price.

The property Dr. Doheny mentioned were in the hopper last month consists of 23 acres on Hill Street and 45.49 acres on Paradise Avenue, which the State and the RWA will purchase.

The grant discussed at last month's meeting was for the RWA to purchase the DePodesta property consisting of 14 acres off of Forest Street and 7.5 acres near the Hamden Bethany line.

Old Business

Mr. Horn mentioned a letter from Andy Brand regarding his 6.77 acres. He would like 7-9,000 per acre but is willing to work a deal with the Land Trust. Mr. Repasz will put this on Gail Cameron's radar. The property abuts Brooksvale and another parcel previously purchased by the Town.

There is no news on the Maselli property.

Regarding the Olin Property, Mr. Horn mentioned that the Town is wanting bonding for \$7.6 million in that area.

New Business

Hamden's Earth Day celebration takes place on April 4th this year. Mr. Horn asked commissioners to think of a possible program. Ms. Larke reserved a table.

Mr. Horn mentioned that this is the Hamden eagles' eighth year.

Mr. Vitali made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Doheny seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Meeting Clerk