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Mayor

TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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FARMINGTON CANAL COMMISSION

Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden will held a Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 4, 2012 in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Kathy Larsen, Johanna Becker, Bill Horowitz, Barbara Gigliotti, Malachi Blandon, Richard Weiner, David Schaefer, Michael Johnson

Others in Attendance: Assistant Town Planner Dan Kops, Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

1. Call to Order

Mr. Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

2. Review Minutes of September 4, 2012

Page 3, second paragraph, 4th line, insert comma after funds; 5th line, change basis to basin; 7th line, change Mr. to Ms.

Paragraph 2. Phase 1 Update, first line, after places change to read "places with pavement that heaves that caused"

Ms. Gigliotti made a motion to approve the minutes of September 4, 2012 as corrected.

Mr. Horowitz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

(informal notes of October 2nd)

(informal notes of November 8th)

Mr. Kops had nothing to report. He received an email from Nancy Alderman forwarding an email regarding the use of a private security force to patrol the trail. Mr. Kops has heard of no problems in Hamden, but a few stories of people being mugged in New Haven. None of these issues have been recent. Mr. Horowitz said the emails from the Yale police are forwarded to the communities by law. Mr. Schaefer said our concept is that the users would drive the abusers

away. Mr. Dunlap reported on this subject at our November meeting. Mr. Horowitz said the crimes seem to be against people walking listening to music or on their cell phones and not being aware, rather than bicyclers.

Mr. Schaefer asked Mr. Kops if the Town has been reimbursed for any of the work done over the last couple of years. Mr. Kops replied that he has heard that some items have been approved, including the painting of the tunnel.

Mr. Kops reminded Commissioners that Public Works has requested that if the commissioners hear of any problems along the trail, they should report to him, and he can forward the issues to Public Works.

Mr. Schaefer received an email today from the people from Hamden High School, who cleaned along the trail yesterday. They made a couple of comments about a fence needing repair, and Mr. Schaefer told them we would appreciate specific information.

Mr. Weiner said he rode Connolly parkway to the Cheshire locks the other day, and he saw different kinds of markings in different colors. He wondered if these markings were being done by the Eagle Scout. Ms. Becker mentioned green arrows and green ribbon around a tree, which she didn't understand. Mr. Weiner said he also noticed ad hoc signs along the trail, and doesn't know who put them up. One said slow down at curve. Mr. Horowitz mentioned that the canopy needs trimming. He also mentioned leaves piling up mostly on the northern portion of the trail. He trust that this will be taken care of.

Ms. Tobin mentioned the retaining wall behind Home Depot that was damaged and a portion was collapsing. Home Depot has had that repaired as of this week. Mr. Schaefer mentioned that the Home Depot parking lot clean up crew was blowing their trash onto the trail but they have stopped doing that thanks to Ms. Orłowski from the Clean & Green Commission. Ms. Becker mentioned ATV tire tracks that go behind the building near the parking lot at the Transit Authority, through the bushes which have been flattened, and have created a pathway onto the trail. Do we want to put a fence there? Mr. Kops will put it on the list, but he has been unsuccessful in getting a fence put up at Phase III where people are crossing private property to access the trail.

Ms. Becker mentioned the steep trail going from Hamden Hills Drive down to the trail. She said it is very steep, and the fence is broken. Mr. Schaefer said that fence is not ours. It is not on our property and we didn't build it. Ms. Becker said perhaps we should address a letter to the owner. Mr. Kops will ask our property maintenance person to look into it.

Mr. Blandon mentioned work going on at the Brooksvale Avenue Bridge. He said the locks are missing in that location and also at the long driveway.

Mr. Schaefer said he was in Jamaica last week, and the resort he was in lost electricity. He called his office and found out that his office and 12 square blocks in New Haven was without power. The outage was caused by someone trying to steal copper wires but electricity was being carried through the wires.

Mr. Schaefer said he will get going again on the fund raising for the replacement of the stone dust.

Mr. Blandon attends the West Woods Road Civic Association meetings. He said students are walking back to the campus and have broken some of the new trees. They leave York Hill and come down Kimberly Avenue to West Woods Road to get back to campus. Mr. Kops doesn't think the Town has taken over the area yet, so the State is still responsible.

3. Phase I Update (Mt. Sanford Road to Todd Street)

Ms. Becker said the Eagle Scout Dan Faherty that was negotiating with her about installing a bench, is no longer interested.

4. Phase IIA Update (Todd Street to Hamden Hills Drive)

Mr. Blandon has concerns about bikers coming from behind People's Bank. There should be a sign saying watch for bicyclers for the cars crossing that driveway.

5. Phase IIB Update (Hamden Hills Drive to Connolly Parkway)

Mr. Schaefer keeps getting positive feedback about the tunnel.

6. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)

Mr. Schaefer mentioned graffiti on the long gray fence which has been painted over and graffitied again. Mr. Horowitz asked about the fence near the artists' housing.

Mr. Schaefer said Ms. Coleman is trying to schedule a meeting for various departments to get together to determine policy. The meeting was scheduled for next Tuesday, but it didn't work for everyone, so it will be rescheduled.

7. Old Business

8. New Business

Review and Approval of 2013 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the 2013 meeting schedule as amended. Ms. Gigliotti seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

9. Adjournment

Ms. Becker made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Larson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission