



# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Mayor

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## FARMINGTON CANAL COMMISSION

**Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission**, Town of Hamden held a Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Kathy Larson, David Schaefer, Bill Horowitz, Johanna Becker, Malachi Blandon, Richard Weiner

Commissioners Absent: Mike Johnson (excused)

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

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Review Minutes of December 5, 2013**

Page 2, item 4, change no parking to "no parking signs"

**Ms. Becker made a motion to approve the minutes of December 5, 2013 as corrected. Ms. Larson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Mr. Schaefer noted that there was no quorum at the meeting of January 7, 2014, so those minutes do not have to be voted on.

Mr. Kops reported that the State sent the Town a check for \$31,000 for Phase III. Mr. Kops said the state wants to close out the tunnel project and they have paid everything he has requested payment for. Mr. Kops just signed off on a bill for Guerra in the amount of \$10,400. Mr. Weiner asked if the money went into the general fund or the trail fund. Mr. Schaefer and Mr. Kops explained that it went into the general fund, which is where the money came from. When you have approval for a project, the Town has to pay their share up front. The \$31,000 represents what the Town overpaid when the price went lower.

Mr. Kops mentioned the problems with the Treadwell Street bridge that the Town is going to fix. There is an additional problem and the State has been out to look at a vertical crack in one of the

abutments. They have placed a metal band around the crack until final repairs can be made in the spring. He also mentioned mafia blocks that were placed on the bridge. One of the conditions of the repair is that the trail must remain open. This will cause traffic and trail users to have to share the same lanes on the bridge.

Ms. Larson mentioned that someone on Facebook asked why only a portion of the trail was plowed. Ms. Larson explained that some people like to cross country ski or snow shoe so a portion of the trail is left unplowed.

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

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

Ms. Becker was able to get the map of bench locations along the trail. There was no indication of locations for the Stubbs and Rabinowitz benches noted on the map. There was discussion on placing the Stubbs bench where West Woods Road used to be located, but there are a number of uncertainties regarding that parcel. Several Commissioners expressed willingness to donate to the Stubbs bench. Mr. Schaefer will call former Commission members. The cost of the bench installed is approximately \$1,200.

Mr. Bandon mentioned that a new fence has been installed near the karate facility. He also mentioned the Quinnipiac buses that are parking in the trail lot at Sherman Avenue. Mr. Kops said he was there a couple of times and didn't see any buses, but he will follow up on this.

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

Area 26 near Connolly Parkway was suggested as a location for the Rabinowitz bench. Mr. Schaefer asked if there are any proposals for the Fluid Controls property. Mr. Kops said he did not know of anything.

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

Mr. Schaefer mentioned some graffiti on Phase III. Mr. Kops said there is a project approved for the corner of Dixwell and Mather. One building will be a dollar store, and there will be another retail building but he has no information on tenants.

**7. Old Business**

Ms. Larson asked about the vests that were discussed at the December meeting. Mr. Schaefer said his and Mr. Horowitz's were great. Mr. Schaefer said the correct name of the trail or the name of the Commission should be on the identification labels. We will take orders for the vests at the next Commission meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Bandon mentioned the possibility of an event in the spring with Commissioners handing out bottled water at the Lock Keeper's House.

Ms. Larson mentioned that the Commission's Facebook page has a lot received 215 likes.

**8. New Business**

Michael Dunlap has resigned from the Commission because of his inability to attend meetings. The Commission thanked Mr. Dunlap for his contributions to the Commission. We now have two vacancies on the Commission, and there was discussion about Commissioners talking to people they think might be interested in joining the Commission and asking them to send a letter of interest and a resume to the Town Clerk and to the Mayor.

**9. Adjournment**

**Ms. Becker made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bandon seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.**

Submitted by: Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission