

Town of Hamden

Planning and Zoning Department

MINUTES of the meeting of the Natural Resources & Open Space Commission of March 31, 2021.

***To view the recording, please click the following link and observe the instructions when/if prompted:**

Meeting Recording:

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/w07fp6MqN9mGeE27pSgkxHOJUGr6-UKgMWDX-XVHhabaysgrXzHOIN82JrgNAR8f.G2vKr3uvkHxLdKNL>

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MEETING ID: 929 3084 4219

PASSWORD: resources

CALL IN: 1 646 558-8656

Commissioners in Attendance: Mr. Horn, Dr. McManus, Mr. Pearce, r. Nista, Mr. Repasz, Mr. Vitali, Mr. Bailin, Mr. Bell, Ms. Larke, Mr. Knott

Commissioners Excused: Dr. Doheny

Others in Attendance: Ms. Tobin,

Mr. Horn called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He announced that the next meeting of the Commission would take place on May 26, 2021, and he is hopeful that it will take place in person. Commissioners agreed that would be nice.

1. Review: Minutes of the January 27, 2021 meeting.

Mr. Nista made a motion to approve the January 27, 2021 minutes of the Natural Resources & Open Space Commission. Mr. Repasz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

2. Continuing Business:

The Beers property: Mr. Repasz reported that Jim Sirch of the Hamden Land Trust told him that the Town of Hamden closed on the Beers property today.

The Brand property: Mr. Repasz reported that The Hamden Land Trust is working on a grant from the Audubon Society for the purchase of this parcel.

The Denslow Hill Rd property: Mr. Horn reported that he spoke to Dr. Doheny earlier this evening. He reported that the property is being offered on the open market for \$400,000. He explained that the property was being offered to the Town of Hamden for \$100,000, but since time passed and the Town didn't move, it is now being offered on the open market.

Other Properties:

Maselli Farm – There was no new information on the Maselli Farm.

Olin Powder Farm: Mr. Pearce reported that he belongs to Connect, a faith based group that has been involved with residents of Southern Hamden to talk Olin into some passive use of the property, maintaining it as a natural preserve. The organizer, Elizabeth Hayes, has been talking with the State DEEP to find the ownership and work out a deal, claiming that the underlying contamination is probably similar to the original remediation area, and maybe not that deep. Repasz said the ownership is with Olin. The Regional Water Authority has the Right of First Refusal and would transfer that to the Hamden Land Trust. They are waiting for a report, probably tomorrow. The Land Trust would not be able to maintain the property. Mr. Pearce said this would be environmental justice for Southern Hamden citizens to enjoy the public space. Commissioners were excited about this new information.

3. New Business:

Mr. Horn mentioned that terms are coming up for renewal for certain commissioners. Dr. Doheny has renewed and Mr. Pearce, Mr. Nista and Mr. McManus are in the process.

State Funding: no new information.

There was discussion on the retirement of Town Planner Kops, and that Town Engineer Mark Austen has been appointed as Acting Town Planner.

Ms. Larke mentioned the ongoing budget process and said she has been attending the Zoom meetings.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Horn asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Repasz so moved. Mr. Nista seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Meeting Clerk