



**BEACON FALLS CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
10 MAPLE AVENUE  
BEACON FALLS, CT06403**

**MEETING MINUTES  
January 8, 2019**

**1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice Chairman Kristen Jabanoski called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm in the Beacon Falls Senior Center.

Commissioners Present: Kristen Jabanoski, Andrew Keane, Sophie Zyla, Mike Opuszynski

Commissioners Absent: Lori Brant, Ruth Burritt, (one open position)

**2. Announcements**

Vice Chairman K. Jabanoski reminded the Commission that there is currently an open position on the Conservation Commission.

**3. Comments from the Public**

None

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the December 11, 2018 were reviewed. **A. Keane moved to accept them. K. Jabanoski seconded. All in favor. 1 abstention. Motion passes 3-0.**

**5. Review of Town Commission & Board Minutes.**

1. Upcoming town meeting regarding the O&G Lopus Rd. project.
2. Work with EDC re: open space.
3. Bonding issues on Tiverton Project.
4. Park & Rec re: Rec fields prep. and continuing work on Matthies Park.

## 6. Correspondence

Vice Chairman K. Jabanoski reported the Commission has recently received notice that First Selectman Chris Bielik has reappointed Mike Opuszynski to the Commission. Congratulations were exchanged.

## 7. Old Business

1. Updated Mission Statement (Jabanoski)
2. Review Commission charter. (Keane/Jabanoski)
3. Contact Staff/Faculty at Woodland Regional High School to investigate the possible placement of a student “junior commissioner”. (Zyla)
4. Spring planting was discussed, and it was agreed to hold off on any plans for now. (Jabanoski/Zyla)
5. The formation of three working groups within the Commission were discussed & agreed upon. They are:
  - a. Land Protection. K. Jabanoski, A. Keane, M. Opuszynski.
  - b. Communications. R. Burritt, S. Zyla.
  - c. Programs. L. Brant.

## 8. New Business

1. Discussion re: environmental impact statement for Fairfield Place sub-division.
2. Contact UCONN Clear, DEEP, etc. re: data on the Tiverton project. (M. Opuszynski)
3. Access expected financial assets for consideration with upcoming projects. (M. Opuszynski)
4. **K. Jabanoski made a motion to budget up to \$250.00 for the spring story walk at Matthies Park. Seconded by M. Opuszynski. All in favor. Motion passes 4-0.**
5. S. Zyla reports the “Fairy House Project” work session of 12/29, 2018 was a great success with 11 volunteers helping.
6. In an effort to re-open trails in Lantern Ridge Park, The Commission will be contacting Dave Boone of the Appalachian Mountain Group, a group of trained trail maintenance volunteers, regarding receiving assistance in trail maintenance in Lantern Ridge Park. Insurance issues appear to have been addressed. (Jabanoski/Zyla)
7. Compile a listing of both publicly and privately-owned open space. Contact the Town Accessor’s office and the Town Clerk along with using specialty apps.. (M. Opuszynski/S. Zyla)
8. The current open Commissioners position was discussed. Facebook, Town Hall, and the Citizens News was notified. (K. Jabanoski)
9. Contact the Conservation Commissions in Prospect & Bethany with an invitation to institute a “exchange program” with their members to share ideas. Perhaps having them visit Matthies and we could visit their parks.
10. Contact a local tree service regarding leaning and/or damaged “widow makers”. (S. Zyla)

## 9. Petition of Commissioners

None

## 10. Payment of Invoices

**M. Opuszynski moved to pay the Clerk’s invoice of \$86.00 for January/2019. Seconded by A. Keane. All in favor. Motion passes 4-0.**

## **11. Adjournment**

The next Conservation Commission regular monthly meeting will be held **Tuesday February 12, 2019 at 6:30 pm** in the **Beacon Falls Senior Center, 57 North Main Street.**

With no other business **K. Jabanoski moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Seconded by S. Zyla. All in favor. Motion passes 4-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Peter A. Christensen*

Clerk

CC: Conservation Comm.