

**TOWN OF TRUMBULL  
CONNECTICUT**



Trumbull Conservation Commission Virtual Meeting  
Wednesday, March 29, 2023  
7:00 pm

**Present:** Chairman, Mary Ellen Lemay (entered at 7:17 pm), Tim Coughlin, Sara Sterling, Pam Roman and John Massari

**Absent:** Richard Post and Matthew Sulzicki

Also Present: Janet Epstein

Mrs. Roman called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm in the absence of Mrs. Lemay.

**Past Minutes**

**Motion was made by Mr. Coughlin to approve the minutes of February 1, 2023 as written. Seconded by Mr. Massari and approved unanimously.**

**A Thousand Trees For Trumbull**

Mrs. Roman led a discussion regarding the brochure that was created. Suggested changes were incorporated into the final draft.

Printing options were discussed.

1. Print and mail to every household in Trumbull.
2. Have it available only in electronic version on various websites such as the Conservation Commission, Pollinator Pathway, Sustainable Trumbull (felt this option was better for the younger population but not necessarily all residents).
3. Print as an enclosure in the tax bill. This option is being explored through the Town Hall but no decision has been made on its inclusion.

Distribution possibilities were discussed.

1. Twin Brook Park events.
2. Plant Sale at the Library.
3. Farmer's Market – Mrs. Roman noted she will be at the Farmer's Market and the plant sale at the Library as a participant and could distribute information.
4. Use of the electronic sign at the Town Hall.
5. Free Library kiosk at Twin Brooks.

6. Laminated version at the kiosks in the Town parks (Mr. Massari stated he would be able to digitally print the brochure and laminate it for the park kiosks).
7. Mailers work well when you have a target audience. They must be done well and attract the homeowner's attention when received.

Mrs. Lemay entered the meeting at 7:17 pm.

8. Raymond Romeo, a Trumbull student, will be presenting his power point on trees to the fifth grade students at the elementary schools around Arbor Day. Sustainable Trumbull ordered seedlings for distribution and it was suggested the brochure could be distributed at that time.
9. Various Town buildings.
10. Send information home through the elementary school students.

Pricing and mailing was discussed for 12,000-13,000 households. Some quotes have been obtained and additional quotes are being requested. Prices range from \$.18 to \$.47 per piece to print and mail with the tax bill still an option. One vendor quoted \$1,800 for print and mail. It will be printed on 100% recycled paper as a tri-fold brochure. If they can do it for \$1,800, they will send them out to the households because they have the funds. Mr. Massari will confirm with his printer what the cost would be for print and mail.

Arbor Day is April 28. Mrs. Lemay will be doing an interview with the Trumbull Times and will have an opportunity to inform the public about A Thousand Trees for Trumbull and Pollinator Pathway initiatives sometime in late April at the Library. Mrs. Lemay noted the banner for the Pollinator Pathway initiative is available from her for any event in the coming months.

Mrs. Lemay would like to keep Sustainable Trumbull, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Department of Public Works in the brochure as they are active in the program. She noted there is now a Gold Certification for Sustainable Trumbull and their inclusion as partners will help towards this goal which has very intense requirements.

#### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Lemay noted she presented the Conservation Commission budget to the Board of Finance and has not heard of any changes being made. Next step is approval by the Town Council. She requested the same funding for the tree project. If the funding is approved, they would be able to implement Phase 2 of the planting plan in Town. Phase 1 plantings should be completed by the end of April.
2. Discussion was held regarding the Conservation Commission obtaining a 501(c)3 designation to be able to accept and manage donations and grant funds. Currently, they have a fiscal intermediary holding these funds. Mrs. Roman obtained the information from the State and will review for a better understanding of the process.
3. Mrs. Lemay shared with the Commission comments from an email from George Estrada, Public Works Director, regarding his involvement with the tree planting plan. He pledged his continued support but did not mention the possibility of planting trees on the Town's right-of-way. It was noted once the Town areas, such as parks, are at capacity for planting, they will be looking for additional areas to address. The tree warden has offered his assistance on this program, if necessary.
4. Tree City Status – application was submitted. Award should be announced in April.

**Old Business**

1. Long Hill Green Rain Garden – Mrs. Lemay noted the owner reached out to her regarding the proposed plantings. He noted the landscapers are beginning to clean the area and he requested the list to secure plantings. He will be advised to secure larger specimens for planting. Mrs. Lemay and Mrs. Roman will assess the property and discuss with the owner.
2. Veterans Memorial Park on White Plains Road (Vietnam Memorial) – no update on plantings in the new area behind the memorial.
3. Tashua Knolls Entrance – The Golf Course would like to enhance the entrance with pollinator plantings and make it a showcase. Discussion will be held with Mr. Paris on potential plant possibilities in that area.
4. IWWC – no updates. Two items on the April 4 agenda were of interest - the application for 10 Old Pinewood Trail requesting approval for tree removal that did not seem to be a problem and the application to demolish the brick building in Trumbull Center.
5. Status of P&Z Regulation Upgrades and Applications – no update.
6. Warren Jacques, Long Hill Tree Service, will be repairing a storm drain on his property on Spring Hill Road. He has been in contact with the Engineering Department regarding the technology and it was felt Conservation Commission input was not necessary.
7. The Hardy Lane site was discussed. The Environmental Study was being presented at the Facilities Committee meeting tonight. It was reiterated that the Commission was only in an advisory position on this project, if requested. It was also noted that this is Town property and is not subject to Planning & Zoning or IWWC requirements as other outside developers.
8. Veteran’s Center was discussed. The Committee is still looking for funding. The waterside native buffer plan was submitted and the contractor would like community involvement in any other landscaping gardens they will develop.

**Next Meeting**

April 26, 2023.

**Action Item**

Resolve printing/ mailing decision depending on confirmation of quotations; have ready for school distribution.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall  
Clerk