

**TOWN OF CHESHIRE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
TOWN HALL Room 115 AT 7:00 P.M.**

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Members present were Bill Sherman, Bob DeVylder, Jodee Heritage, Jackie Sima and Doug Noble.

Members not present were: Carrie Collins-White and Matt Abdifar.

Guest: Ron Gagliardi.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**II. Roll Call**

Ms. Heritage called the roll.

Members present were Bill Sherman, Bob DeVylder, Jodee Heritage, Jackie Sima and Doug Noble.

Members not present were Carrie Collins-White and Matt Abdifar.

**III. Determination of Quorum**

There were enough members present for a quorum.

**IV. Pledge of Allegiance**

All present recited the pledge of allegiance.

**V. Acceptance of Minutes – Regular Meeting – June 14, 2017**

Pg. 3 L27 change “said he and Ms. Schnitzer” to “said he and Ms. Simone.”

Chairman Sherman called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 14, 2017 regular meeting; with one correction noted.

Moved by Ms. Sima. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.

**V. Communications**

1. The Habitat CACIWC Newsletter, Spring 2017, volume 29, number 2  
(To be handed out at the meeting)

Ms. Simone reported that she did not have copies of The Habitat to hand out at tonight's meeting; she'd bring copies to the next meeting.

**VI. Calendar – Events**

Chairman Sherman reviewed the following calendar of events items:

1. Cheshire Fall Festival- Saturday, September 16

Chairman Sherman reported discussion on this item would be discussed under new business.

2. National Public Lands Day – Saturday, September 30

Chairman Sherman reported that this item would be discussed under unfinished business.

3. Ives Farm Tractor Trot 5K- Saturday October 28

**VII. Unfinished Business**

1. Plans for National Public Lands Day Event

The Commission discussed plans for National Public Lands Day.

There was discussion regarding a cleanup effort at the Linear Trail at Jarvis Street.

Ms. Simone reported that the area has been cleaned up by the Public Works department; no cleanup of vegetation/invasive species has been scheduled for now.

Mr. Noble reported the area he reviewed had also been cleaned up.

Chairman Sherman reported that he and his wife walked a stretch of the trail and it had also been cleaned up.

There was no further discussion about a National Public Lands Day event.

## 2. Commissioner Projects

Ms. Heritage and Mr. Noble shared information Hike Cheshire Photo Competition; there was discussion about advertising the competition at the fall festival – placing a copy of the flyer on a poster along with copies of the flyer; the deadline to submit photos would be December 1, 2017.

Mr. Noble had shared a draft copy of the flyer.

The Commission reviewed and discussed the competition.

Ms. Heritage asked if there were funds in the Commission's budget to offer give-a-way prizes to contest winners; she said maybe they could purchase a few gift certificates from local businesses.

Chairman Sherman suggested getting donations – such as outdoor items as give-a-ways.

Ms. Simone said she'd look into funding for prizes and that this item could be discussed later. She also mentioned that the flyer should mention residents should hike Cheshire open spaces.

Ms. Sima suggested forwarding the flyer to the schools so it could be advertised on school's websites.

There was further discussion about the Commission getting permission or permission for public release of the photos submitted.

Ms. Simone suggested that submission include the property names where the photo was taken.

Ms. Heritage agreed to accept the photos for the competition.

Mr. Noble agreed to revise the flyer before the fall festival on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

Ms. Heritage agreed to give Ron Gagliardi a copy of the final draft of the flyer to post on his website.

**VIII. New Business**

**1. Plans for Fall Festival**

Chairman Sherman reported that he'd set up the Commission's booth at the fall festival on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

Chairman Sherman and Mr. Noble stated they'd attend the event.

Chairman Sherman also reported that Mr. Abdifar will also attend.

The festival starts at 11:00 am and runs until 6:00 pm; followed by evening fireworks.

Ms. Simone said she'd make the Hike Cheshire Photo Competition flyers and have them available for the festival.

Commission members discussed advertising the competition at the festival.

Ms. Simone reported that in addition to having a table and tent, she'd provide the give-a-way bags, the banner, and open space maps.

**2. Renaming of Dime Property**

Chairman Sherman reported to the Commission that town council passed the renaming of the Dime Savings property – the official name is now the "Yankee Expressway Highlands." He said that it came up in a town meeting that the town owned a parcel of property in Wolcott adjacent to the property on Route 322.

Ms. Simone explained that information came to light that the town bought property when the Dime Savings property was purchased and this detail was fact checked. She explained that the property is level ground and is workable for a parking lot.

Ms. Simone said work will begin on a draft for a parking area and that there's a schedule plan to use millings for the lot (surface).

Ms. Simone also explained that the parking lot proposal would have to go before the Town of Wolcott (since the lot location is in Wolcott) and that there were a few other details to take care of.

**Ms. Simone said she'd be reaching out to RWA, the adjacent property owner before work would begin.**

**Commission members all agreed this was good news (about the property access) and that the property finally has a new name, "the Yankee Expressway Highlands."**

**The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11, 2017.**

**IX. Adjournment**

**Chairman Sherman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm.**

**Moved by Ms. Heritage. Seconded by Mr. Noble. Motion approved unanimously by Commission members present.**

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Carla Mills  
Recording Secretary**