

**SUFFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023**

**PRESENT:**

**Art Christian, Chairman  
Glenn Neilson, Vice Chairman  
Norm John Noble  
Ray Wilcox  
Pat Reilly  
Gary Phelps  
Tom Elmore**

**CONSULTANT:**

**Keith Morris**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER- 7:00 P.M.**

Chairman Christian called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Consultant Morris read the agenda. Alternate Commissioner Tom Elmore shall be a voting member in place of Commissioner Fanous who was not present.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT:**

Cayden O'Brien – Sunrise Park

Eagle Scout Cayden O'Brien, of Troop 260, presented his Eagle Scout project to the Commission. His project is to redo the cooking grills adjacent to the pavilion at Sunrise Park. The current grills are in the state of disrepair with some of the grates having holes in them. Cayden handed out a diagram of his proposed grill design. Chairman Christian asked how the project would be financed. Cayden said he estimates the project will cost \$ 600.00 – 700.00 and monies would be raised by donations and perhaps a car wash fundraiser. He also said he would be doing the welding under the supervision of his father or his Troop leader. The base of the grills will be screwed in to the concrete and the grates will be easy to remove and replace.

A discussion followed on the cracked blue stone around the perimeter of the grills. Parks Superintendent Tom O'Brien stated that the Suffield Rotary Club is still looking to donate funds to the Park which could be used to repair these.

During discussion Commissioners Neilson and Phelps along with Suffield resident Ray Perleoni offered to donate supplies for the project. Eagle Scout O'Brien stated that the new grills would be ready for the spring of 2024.

After discussion, Commissioner Noble made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Reilly, to approve the Eagle Scout project. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PERMITTED ACTIVITY DECISION**

Connecticut Mulch – Composting – 654 North Grand Street

Consultant Morris stated he conducted a site inspection at the property with Brennan Sheahan of Connecticut Mulch. He stated that there is only one small wetland area shown on the Town GIS map that is within the proposed work area and that area shown has been farmed for years.

Mr. Sheahan then presented an overview of the project and the history of the land. Planning and Zoning recently granted a text amendment for the composting of horse manure and leaves. Currently they have approval to compost on 2 acres.

The rows will run east to west with the topography of the land. The process takes six to nine months with the material being flipped every two months. Commissioner Wilcox asked how the piles would be watered during stretches of no rain. Mr. Sheahan stated that there is an existing irrigation system in place on site. He also stated that they are in the process of obtaining a permit from the State for this project. That permit will also address treating runoff from the site.

After discussion, Vice Chairman Neilson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Wilcox, to approve the project as a permitted use as of right as per Section 4.1a of the Suffield Conservation Commission regulations. There is only a small wetland area within the project area that has already been farmed for years. The applicant is required to submit a copy of the State permit for the Commission's files once it is obtained. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **CONSULTANT'S REPORT**

Application # 1707 – Letter of withdrawal.

Consultant Morris read a letter dated September 20, 2023 from Attorney Robin Pearson of Alter & Pearson, representing applicant Briarwood Homes, Inc., withdrawing application # 1707.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 MEETING OF THE COMMISSION**

Commissioner Reilly made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Noble and carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Noble made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reilly. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by  
Norm John Noble  
Recording Secretary