

Conservation Commission
Special Meeting December 10, 2015

The meeting opened at 7:08 with the following in attendance:

MEMBERS:

Melissa Leonard
Christine Yannielli
Shagufta Zahid
Brian Vaugh
Michael Turman
Jimmy Ayash
Felipe Flores

OTHERS:

Mary Lou Sharon

1. Jimmy Ayash led with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Those in attendance introduced themselves and talked about their background and reasons for joining the commission.
3. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Christine Yannielli and seconded by Shagufta Zahid to **APPOINT** Melissa Leonard as Chair and Jimmy Ayash as Vice-Chair of the Conservation Commission.
4. There were no volunteers for Secretary so it was agreed that a collaboration of notes would be submitted until someone is appointed or hired to record minutes.
5. **VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Christine Yannielli and seconded by Jimmy Ayash to hold the commission's regular meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 7:00pm.
5. Commission discussion about the mission of the commission. Ideas included developing an inventory of private, state and town-owned open space; holding events to educate the public including information about microbeads; partnering with local businesses to encourage conservation initiatives; partnering with local farmers to donate produce to schools and teach about the origin of foods; working with the Economic Development Commission to encourage smart growth and consideration for conservation; developing a plan for the town to be an example of efficiency and conservation including recycling gray water for athletic fields; promoting the quality of life in Naugatuck and working with other groups to improve it; labeling storm drains to discourage dumping.
6. Shagufta Zahid will create Facebook and Linked In pages for the commission.
7. Melissa Leonard will look into getting a Burgess liaison.
8. Christine Yannielli will contact the Land Use dept. to ask about an existing open space inventory.
9. Christine Yannielli reported that Alex Olbrys and Robin Bennet have volunteered to be alternates for the Commission. Melissa Leonard stated that they need to be sworn in by the mayor.
9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Unanimously on a motion by Christine Yannielli and seconded by Felipe Flores to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 9:30pm.