

Conservation Commission Minutes for the meeting of July 28, 2016:

Called to order at 6:35 - Albert Grant, Fran Neill, and Kirk Montstream present.

Old Business:

CT Dept. of Ag. Is configuring an offer for the Hamm property agricultural easment and would like a letter of support from the EW. The Town would likely be asked to contribute 25% of the offered amount. The EW portion is about 6 acres with about 13 acres in South Windsor. That amount is yet to be determined.

The Commission voted to endorse the letter of support but it must be from the Agricultural Commission.

"The East Windsor Agricultural Commission supports the application for a conservation easment on the portion of the Hamm property that is in East Windsor, in conjunction with Community Farms Program. We feel that the prime and important soil and the proximity to other significant farmland warrants the preservation of this resource."

The Riverbend / Griffin Properties application with the CT Dept of Ag. for the purchase of an agricultural easment is at the point of making an offer for the development value of the 115.5 acre parcel on Rye St. The State would likely require the Town to contribute 25% of the cost, which is yet to be determined.

A motion was passed :

"The East Windsor Conservation Commission supports the Town investigating acquisition of the Riverbend property at the rate of 25%, pending establishing the negotiated value. We would also support investigating other sources of funding, such as land trusts and foundation grants."

New Business: Follow up on previous evaluations of farm properties over and under 30 acres.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45

Submitted by Albert Grant, Committee Chairman