



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Marelli called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Due to technical difficulties the meeting was not recorded.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Roberta Levandoski
Commissioner James Harwood
Commissioner David Holdridge
Commissioner Kathleen Edgecomb
Commissioner Betsy Graham
Commissioner Barbara Kil
Commissioner Michael E. Marelli

Non-voting Alternate Member Dave Cohen

Betsy Graham arrived late - 7:37 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from May 14, 2024, as written.

Mr. Cohen was appointed as a voting member for this motion in Ms. Graham's absence.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Michael E. Marelli

SECONDER: Dave Cohen

AYE 8 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Graham Kil Marelli Cohen

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

None.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Public Comments.

None.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**1. Informational Items.**

The Commission had a table set up at the Connecticut Trails Day at Tri-Town Trails on June 1, 2024, and another table held at the Regatta Day Festival in Gales Ferry on June 8, 2024.

Chairman Marelli attended an Alliance for the Mystic River Watershed meeting on June 7, 2024.

Chairman Marelli is working with the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments and the Town Planner on a statewide map of open space.

Chairman Marelli is working towards having a survey performed on 60 wooded acres of Burton property by the CT State Forestry.

Chairman Marelli reported that Avalonia is working on a grant for 225-acre Rowley property on Stoddard's Wharf.

Chairman Marelli suggested that the Commission keeps an eye on the proposed development at Mount Decatur in Gales Ferry. Once updated plans have been submitted by Cashman Dredging, members will discuss the proposal and comment, if needed.

Betsy Graham has been named an Environmental Hero by the Aquarian Water Company and received a \$5,000 grant which will go to the Alliance for the Mystic River Watershed. She was honored in June. Aquarian said Graham "serves as a board member on the Ledyard Conservation Commission and holds leadership positions at the Alliance for the Mystic River Watershed and the Lantern Hill Valley Association, where she has been a member for over 40 years. She has also supported Save the Sound's efforts to restore fish habitats at Long Pond and has worked with Ledyard Parks and Recreation to host educational programs for children on her own waterfront property. When she's not advocating for watershed conservation, she pulls invasive plants from hiking trails, collects litter along waterways, and takes water samples for the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). Betsy's goal is "to keep the water as healthy as possible" and educate others about the importance of our water resources".

Ms. Graham is looking for volunteers for a State-run boat launch program to educate boaters about introducing invasive species into inland waterways.

VII. OLD BUSINESS**1. Property Walks.**

Mr. Cohen cleared some overgrown trails at Blunders. Clearing needs to be done at the path to Burton property on Gallup Hill Road. Chairman Marelli and Cohen will meet to put up new

signs at Glacier Park.

2. Financial Reports.

Some funds have been spent but not yet reflected in the financial reports. Chairman Marelli reported that the White-Hall account has about \$20,000. The Conservation General Fund has approximately \$2,900; and the Trail Maintenance account has just under \$6,000.

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

No report.

4. Field clearing at White-Hall Property.

No report.

5. Areas of interest and goals for 2024 continued.

Still working on this.

6. 100 Whalehead Road property.

No comments.

7. Any Other Old Business to come before the Commission.

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Any Other New Business to come before the Commission.

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:16 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Michael E. Marelli

SECONDER: James Harwood

AYE 7 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Graham Kil Marelli

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.