

Chairman

TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Mike Marelli	Regular Meeting	
Tuesday, June 10, 2025	6:30 PM	Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairman Marelli at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Vice Chair James Harwood Commissioner Betsy Graham Commissioner Barbara Kil Chairperson Michael E. Marelli Commissioner Dave Cohen Commissioner Kathleen Edgecomb Commissioner Roberta Levandoski

Also in attendance William Barnes, Town Council.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2025, as written.

RESULT:APPROVED AND SO DECLARED**MOVER:**Michael E. Marelli**SECONDER:**Barbara Kil

AYE 7 Harwood Graham Kil Marelli Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

Request for funding from the Lantern Hill Valley Alliance - will be discussed during New Business.

Received Warm Water Fisheries Action Plan.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Public Comments.

None.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Informational items.

Two people visited the Commission's booth during the Regatta festival. Attendance was low due to rain.

LEAF (Ledyard Education Advancement Foundation) - A nonprofit that raises money for Ledyard schools invited the Commission to set up a table during the school-wide Back to School Bash on August 23, 2025 at the Town Green.

Zoe Wu, who the Commission nominated for as an Aquarion Water Company Environmental Champions award recipient, was selected and received a \$1,000 award. Ms. Graham attended the ceremony with Miss Wu.

Spraying for weeds and/or insects must be discussed with the Parks and Recreation Department. Chairman Marelli is looking into it.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Property Walks.

Mr. Cohen reported litter in the parking lot of Glacier Park. The Commission discussed putting a trash can in the parking lot but decided not to.

2. Financial Reports.

No changes since last month.

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

Parks and Recreation is putting in barriers/silt fence around the new park at Long/Bush Pond and plants will be put in most likely in the fall.

4. Field Clearing at White-Hall Property.

Chairman Marelli asked Mayor Fred Allyn III if Town workers could clear the 40 by 20-foot parking lot when they are clearing brush on the road around the park.

5. Recommendations to Burton Woods Management Plan Update.

No comments.

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

The Commission has secured signs and literature from Ledge Light Health District about the dangers of ticks and will be posting the sign and installing old "trail boxes" to hold the literature. The informational literature will be placed at the Burton, Glacier, Kettlehole and Whitehall properties.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Lantern Hill Valley Association Request.

Ms. Graham gave a presentation on behalf of the Lantern Hill Valley Association -The Valley Alliance is requesting \$500 to continue monitoring for invasive plants in Bush Pond and Long Pond. A survey was done in 2020, and a second one was completed in 2024. No invasives were found. The next survey will be conducted in approximately four more years unless there are signs of invasives. Both the Town of Ledyard and North Stonington supported the first survey but denied funding for the second one. Mr. Harwood pointed out that the request is about 20 percent of the Conservation Commission's budget and suggested seeking support from other sources such as the Parks and Recreation Department, the State of Connecticut, and from Senator Blumenthal. William Barnes, Town Council, who is also the Liaison for Park and Recreation, said he would discuss it with the Commission at its next meeting. He said he would also give a report to the Town Council. No action was taken by the Commission.

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

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:49 p.m.

RESULT:APPROVED AND SO DECLARED**MOVER:**Michael E. Marelli**SECONDER:**James Harwood

AYE 7 Harwood Graham Kil Marelli Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski

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