



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

6:45 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Marelli called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Roberta Levandoski
Commissioner James Harwood
Commissioner Kathleen Edgecomb
Alternate Member Jessica Buhle
Commissioner Betsy Graham
Commissioner Michael E. Marelli

Excused Commissioner Amy Stephenson
Commissioner David Holdridge

Non-voting Alternate Member Barbara Kil

Also present:

Town Councilor Mary McGrattan

Town Councilor Naomi Rodriguez

Guest: Ty Lamb, Historic District Commission Vice Chairman.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meetings from March 14, 2023, as written

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jessica Buhle

SECONDER: Betsy Graham

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Edgecomb Buhle Graham Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Stephenson Holdridge

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ty Lamb, representing the Ledyard Historic District Commission, said the Commission would like to work with the Conservation Commission on projects that would highlight the history of open spaces, trails, and notable sections of town, such as the Lambtown area, Quakertown area and the Spicer ruin. Eventually the Historic District Commission would like to create a website where users can see and walk thr paths virtually. Mr. Lamb is also talking to the Ledyard Garden Club, the Beautification Committee and other Town bodies. The Conservation Members agreed to keep the lines of communication open and to work together.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Jessica Buhle said the Aquarion Environmental Champion Awards program application is open. A grant up to \$2,500.00 is given for a project that improves water quality.

Betsy Graham attended a talk by the Eastern Connecticut Conservation Commission and distributed brochures on creating water gardens, streamside buffers and maintaining a healthy septic system

Ms. Graham also reported that she joined the Alliance for Mystic River Watershed and will keep the Commission updated. All are invited to a Meet & Greet at the Coogan Farm in Mystic on April 30, 2023, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Property Walks

Mr. Harwood and Ms. Graham both walked the White-Hall property. Ms. Graham cleaned up a chair and some clothes that were left on the property.

2. Financial Reports

The only change since last month was two deductions from the Conservation general fund for \$30.00 each. Both of these deductions were for reimbursements for CT Land Trust Conservation Council summit registration fees.

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued

Ms. Buhle reported that the Eastern Connecticut Conservation Commission has grant money to buy plants to start four pollinator gardens or rain gardens in Town. There are eight proposed sites, including the head of the Tri-Town Trail, the Town Green and Farmer's Market and Lantern Hill. A date will be set to visit each site.

4. Burton Property Maintenance Plan continued

Chairman Marelli said that he has completed the plan and will send it out to the Commission members soon.

5. Team Rubicon Volunteers continued

Sixteen volunteers are expected on Saturday, April 15, 2023, to work on clearing the paths at Burton Trail. They will work from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Edgecomb suggested taking a picture of the volunteers working to publish in the Ledyard Events with a small article of recognition.

6. Any Other Old Business to come before the Commission

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Any Other New Business to come before the Commission

The Commission is welcome to set up tables at the Yale-Harvard Regatta Festival held on June 10, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The North Stonington Garden Club is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for a high school senior interested in environmental studies. The Application can be found online.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jessica Buhle

SECONDER: James Harwood

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Edgecomb Buhle Graham Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Stephenson Holdridge

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