



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

## Conservation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman  
Mike Marelli

#### Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, October 10, 2023

6:45 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Marelli called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

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

**Excused** Commissioner Barbara Kil

Jessica Buhle was present via Zoom.

Jessica Buhle was appointed as a voting member.

#### III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from August 8, 2023, and Special Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2023, as written.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Michael E. Marelli

**SECONDER:** Kathleen Edgecomb

**AYE** 7 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Graham Marelli Buhle

**EXCUSED** 1 Kil

#### IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

Chairman Marelli received correspondence from the Department of Agriculture station that it's changing designation of some agricultural lands which could help Ledyard in the future.

Chairman Marelli will get more information.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Pablo Armijo, University of Connecticut Student was present via Zoom to observe the meeting. No comments.

**VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**1. Informational Items.**

On October 1, 2023, Chairman Marelli and Mr. Holdridge attended the Tri-town Trail re-opening with other Land Use and Conservation Organizations.

On October 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., there will be an Agricultural Commission Joint meeting with Representatives from Land Use and Town Planning departments. Chairman Marelli will represent the Conservation Commission.

Chairman Marelli and Betsy Graham attended the second meeting of Alliance for Mystic River Watershed on October 2, 2023.

Commission members agreed to change the Regular Meeting start time from 6:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Chairman Marelli will investigate whether the Town of Ledyard annually mows Barrett Preserve as Ms. Levandowski noticed a line item on proposed 23/24 budget of Avalonia Land Trust. It stated that the annual mowing will be done by the Town of Ledyard. If this is the case could Ledyard also mow White-Hall for the Conservation Commission? Ms. Levandowski said that Barrett Preserve and White-Hall are similar in size.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Property Walks.**

Chairman Marelli, Mr. Harwood and Ms. Graham (and spouses) started clearing path at Burton so Ledyard High School Girls' Cross-Country team could practice.

Mr. Harwood visited Kettle-Hole Park and reported paths were all clear.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**2. Financial Reports.**

Chairman Marelli is investigating a \$223 payment from the White Hall account on August 8, 2023. The Commission has no record of approving any such payment.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**3.** Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

The Ericson Park and Sawmill plantings were completed on October 6, 2023. Commissioners were asked to help with plantings at Highland Park on Friday October 13, 2023. For now, Lantern Hill Valley is on hold.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**4.** Field clearing at White-Hall Property.

Chairman Marelli is in discussions with Rocky Landscaping for an annual clearing of the White-Hall Property. Currently the growth is too thick to mow. Rocky Landscaping suggested waiting until the growth dies down later in the season at which point the property can be reassessed and a quote can be given.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**5.** New signage at White-Hall Property.

Chairman Marelli said he doesn't think it needs a new sign but rather cut back what is growing over the sign.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**6.** OSWA Grant.

Chairman Marelli reported that the OSW grant has been submitted for \$600,000 to purchase of 148 Stoddards Wharf Road. He added that the prospect is good it will be approved. The Town voted in favor of putting \$100,000 of the open spaces funds towards the purchase if the grant goes through.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**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 7:30 p.m.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Michael E. Marelli

**SECONDER:** Roberta Levandoski

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

