



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

6:45 PM

Mayor's Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Marelli called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Excused Commissioner Amy Stephenson
Commissioner Betsy Graham
Alternate Member Barbara Kil

Kathleen Edgecomb and James Harwood were present via Zoom.

Also present:

Town Councilor Mary McGrattan

Town Councilor Naomi Rodriguez

Jessica Buhle was appointed as a voting member.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes for July 11, 2023, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Michael E. Marelli

SECONDER: David Holdridge

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Buhle Marelli

EXCUSED 3 Stephenson Graham Kil

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None this month.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No residents were present.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Chairman Marelli said that on July 13, 2023, the Rotary Club is hosting a seminar on rain gardens.

Maggie Favretti of Mystic River Alliance will attend the August 8, 2023, Conservation Commission meeting.

There is still no word on Pfizer 154 Stoddard's Wharf Road.

Avalonia reported that they are moving forward with 148 Stoddard's Wharf Road.

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

No walks were taken.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Financial Reports.

The figures haven't changed since last month's report.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

Ms. Buhle will visit the Sawmill grounds.

Chairman Marelli visited Highland Lakes.

Ms. Buhle asked if anyone had seen any Monarch butterflies but no one had.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Ledyard Conservation Banner purchase.

Ms. Buhle received quotes from Thirty Marketing for a banner to be used at the Farmer's Market and other events such as the Regatta:

3'x6' banner would cost \$75.00

3'x10' banner would cost \$110.00

Thirty Marketing could custom make any size. Ms. Buhle suggested a size of 18"x 10', she will ask for an additional quote for that size. She will also ask about the turnaround time to be sure a banner will be available for August 3, 2023. Usually, the banners have grommets that can be tied.

Motion to APPROVE spending up to \$110.00 for a Conservation Commission banner to be used for various Commission events.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Kathleen Edgecomb

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Buhle Marelli

EXCUSED 3 Stephenson Graham Kil

5. Ledyard Conservation business cards or badges.

Chairman Marelli said the Town would be able to provide a sheet of ten business cards. The cards would include the Commissioner's name, the Town seal, contact information and Commission's name. Chairman Marelli said it could be useful at events and when discussing volunteer work with residents. He told the Commissioners if anyone is interested, they could go to the Mayor's office to request cards to be made.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

6. Field clearing at White-Hall Property.

Still a work in progress.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

7. New signage at White-Hall Property.

Mr. Harwood went to see the signage. He suggested cutting back some of the brush around the sign so it can be seen from the roadway rather than move the sign. Chairman Marelli will investigate and start clearing.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

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

Chairman Marelli reported that the idea of acquiring the parcel 113 acres at 148 Stoddard's Wharf is moving along. A positive step is that Avalonia Land Conservancy is getting an appraisal of the property.

Ms. Buhle asked if the Commission will be participating in the Farmer's market this summer. Ms. Buhle proposed August 2 as the target date.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Transfer of 538R to Avalonia.

538R is the Town owned open space property behind Outback Stables and bordering the Pike Marshall Preserve. The property is not contiguous to any Town property. Chairman Marelli said the property would be able to complete the trail from Burton to Pike Marshall and is 1,000' along the wetlands. Mr. Holdridge asked is Avalonia if proposing putting a trail on this property, Chairman Marelli answered yes.

Chairman Marelli said he has been trying to set up a meeting with the High School athletic department to inquire about turning it into a cross country trail.

Chairman Marelli added that there is a large amount of paperwork involved in the transfer.

Motion to RECOMMEND transferring ownership of 3.2 acres of town-owned land at 538R Colonel Ledyard Highway to Avalonia Land conservancy.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: David Holdridge

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Buhle Marelli

EXCUSED 3 Stephenson Graham Kil

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

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:20 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: David Holdridge

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 6 Levandoski Harwood Holdridge Edgecomb Buhle Marelli

EXCUSED 3 Stephenson Graham Kil

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