



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 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 Barbara Kil
Chairman Michael E. Marelli
Commissioner Dave Cohen
Commissioner Kathleen Edgecomb
Commissioner Roberta Levandoski
Excused Commissioner Betsy Graham

Also in attendance:

Town Council Chairperson, Naomi Rodriguez - arrived 6:37 pm
Karen Parkinson, Ledyard Historic District Commission
Dennis Main, Avalonia (via Zoom)

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from February 11, 2025, as written.

Chairman Marelli stated for the record that discussions with Avalonia about land to connect to Pike-Marshall property have been on-going for months.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Michael E. Marelli

SECONDER: Barbara Kil

AYE 6 Harwood Kil Marelli Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski

EXCUSED 1 Graham

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

The Connecticut Land Conservation is holding its 41st annual conference on March 22, 2025, at Wesleyan University.

The Burton Property Report has been received and will be discussed at a future meeting.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Public Comments.

Karen Parkinson, Historic District Commission shared with the Conservation Commission the various projects the Historic Commission is involved with;

Working with the Town to preserve the Spicer house ruins.

Participating in the Ledyard America 250 Project which will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Assisting in maintaining the Tri-Town Trail.

Discussing the possibility of new developments including trails.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Informational items.

Naomi Rodriguez, Town Council Chairperson invited the Commission to attend an Agricultural Commission Joint meeting on April 15 at 6:00 p.m.

The Ledyard Beautification Committee has invited Conservation Commission to set up an information table at their Earth Day Celebration Event on April 26, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Ledyard Senior Center.

Chairman Marelli and Mr. Cohen have volunteered for the Community Action Team for the Alliance for Mystic River Watershed.

Dennis Main of Avalonia asked about parcels of land managed by the Town or the Conservation Commission that lie in the Great Cedar Swamp that might be transferred to Avalonia for preservation.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Property Walks.

Mr. Cohen reported that the parking lot at Glacier Park needs attention.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Financial Reports.

No changes.

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

The Plan for Lantern Hill Valley Park is proceeding through government approval process and could have final approvals by April 4th, allowing the Commission to start spring planting.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Field Clearing at White-Hall Property.

A contractor is submitting a W-9 to the Town to have a purchase order created. He hopes to complete the project between March 21-23.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

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

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS**1. Any Other New Business to come before the Commission.**

Transfer of Kettlehole Park to Avalonia.

Avalonia is waiting for a decision on a grant application to purchase property at 173-174 Stoddards Wharf Road for open space and asked the Commission to continue discussions about the possibility of transferring Kettlehole Park to Avalonia.

The commission endorses the consideration of transferring Kettlehole Park to Avalonia, pending Avalonia receiving an Open Space Land Acquisition grant to purchase property at 173-175 Stoddards Wharf Road.

Motion to ENDORSE the consideration of transferring Kettlehole Park to Avalonia, pending Avalonia receiving an Open Space Land Acquisition grant to purchase property at 173-175 Stoddards Wharf Road.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Michael E. Marelli

SECONDER: Dave Cohen

AYE 6 Harwood Kil Marelli Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski

EXCUSED 1 Graham

White-Hall Management Report.

Motion to ACCEPT the White-Hall Management Report.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Kathleen Edgecomb

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 6 Harwood Kil Marelli Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski

EXCUSED 1 Graham

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:23 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Kathleen Edgecomb

SECONDER: Michael E. Marelli

AYE 6 Harwood Kil Marelli Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski

EXCUSED 1 Graham

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