



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Marelli asked Vice Chairman Harwood to run the meeting. Chairman Marelli said he may need to leave the meeting early to attend the IWWC meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Harwood at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Also in attendance via Zoom was Gary Paul, Town Councilor.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from October 8, 2024, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Betsy Graham

SECONDER: Roberta Levandoski

AYE 7 Levandoski Harwood Edgecomb Graham Kil Marelli Cohen

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

The Connecticut Sitting Council is holding a Zoom meeting on December 12, 2024, to discuss and receive comments from the public on the proposed solar field on land in Stonington, adjacent to Ledyard. The information portion of the meeting starts at 2:00 p.m. and public comments begin at 6:30 p.m.

Avalonia Land Conservancy is holding its annual members meeting, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. December

8, 2024, at the La Grua Center in Stonington Borough. "Voice of Avalonia" is open to the public. RSVP to Avalonia by Nov. 24, 2024.

Ms. Graham will attend a Bluff Point meeting.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Public Comments.

None present.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Informational items.

Chairman Marelli reported there are no updates on the Commission's financials. The figures will be updated as needed.

Ms. Graham handed out a pamphlet on Storm Water Best Management Practices, compiled by the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District.

Ms. Graham extended an invitation to attend "Mission: Possible", a scavenger hunt and shared art project hosted by the Alliance for Mystic River Watershed on November 29, 2024, at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center. It is open to the public.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Property Walks.

Mr. Harwood bushwhacked his way between Kettlehole and Glacial parks along the ridgeline to scope out possible trail to connect the parks. There is still a problem with garbage being left in the parking lots of the two parks.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Financial Reports.

See comments in Informational Items.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

Ms. Levandoski visited the rain gardens at Sawmill and noticed that the aster and bluestem plants were crowding out others and were going to move but decided to wait until discussing it with Scott Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director. Ms. Graham volunteered to invite Mr. Johnson to a future meeting to discuss maintenance of the rain gardens.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

- 4. Field Clearing at White-Hall Property.

No comments.

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

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Support Letter for Avalonia's OSWA Grant.

Motion to send a letter of support for Avalonia Land Trust application for Open Space and Watershed Acquisition grant funding to purchase property located at 173-165 Stoddards Wharf Road, Ledyard.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Betsy Graham

SECONDER: Dave Cohen

AYE 7 Levandoski Harwood Edgecomb Graham Kil Marelli Cohen

- 2. Comments on LISS 2025-2035 Plan.

Discussion of Long Island Sound Study's 10-year plan to implement programs to improve water quality. Mr. Cohen said everything in the report is worth doing. No actions taken.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

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

Discussion about sending a letter to Steve Masalin, Public Works Director, to ask for help and/or suggestions on clearing paths and fields at Whitehall property. This discussion will be continued during the December meeting.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Kathleen Edgecomb

SECONDER: Roberta Levandoski

AYE 7 Levandoski Harwood Edgecomb Graham Kil Marelli Cohen

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