



TOWN OF LEDYARD

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman
Mike Marelli

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

6:45 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Present Commissioner Roberta Levandoski
Commissioner David Holdridge
Commissioner Kathleen Edgecomb
Commissioner Barbara Kil
Commissioner Michael E. Marelli

Excused Commissioner James Harwood
Alternate Member Jessica Buhle

Non-voting Commissioner Betsy Graham

Barbara Kill was appointed as a voting member.

Also in attendance:

Town Councilor Mary McGrattan

Town Councilor Naomi Rodriguez

Guest Maggie Favretti of Alliance for the Mystic River Watershed

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 5 Levandoski Holdridge Edgecomb Kil Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Harwood Buhle

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None present.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Maggie Favretti of Alliance for Mystic River Watershed gave a presentation on the new non-profit organization and the importance of all waters upstream that eventually feed into the Mystic River. The watershed is located in the towns of Ledyard, Groton, Stonington, North Stonington, Mashantucket and Eastern Pequot lands. The Alliance wants to apply for a federal climate resilience grant to complete GPS mapping of the watershed, among other things. The alliance is looking for letters of support from all entities in and around the watershed for its work on studying and protecting the waters. After reviewing the letters NOA will decide if it will extend an invitation to the alliance to apply for the grant. Ms. Favretti was expected to meet with Mayor Fred Allen III for a letter of support from the Town.

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

None.

2. Financial Reports.

No change.

3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

No report.

4. Field clearing at White-Hall Property.

No report.

5. New signage at White-Hall Property.

No report.

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

The Conservation Commission's table at the Ledyard Farmer's Market was a success. Two people expressed interest in joining the Commission, which was two alternate positions open.

The Alliance for Mystic River Watershed is having a Noank Gathering on August 21, 2023, from 4-6 p.m., at Palmers Provisions, 17 Pearl Street, Noank. Discussion will include how oysters contribute to ecological health and coastal resilience as well as providing food and livelihoods for humans. All are invited.

The Ledyard Democratic Town Committee is hosting a meet-and-greet on August 26, 2023, from 4-6 pm., with state elected officials to talk about goals for the next legislative session. All are invited.

The Connecticut League of Conservation Voters would like to have a "Climate, Coffee and

Conversation” event for residents to meet elected State Officials to discuss environmental issues. Ms. Graham will investigate.

Tri-Town Trail Day is on October 1, 2023, at Preston Park. The Commission is invited to set up a table.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Purchase of invasive plant booklets.

Motion to REIMBURSE Betsy Graham in the amount of \$65.00 for the purchase of invasive plant booklets which the Commission will give to residents during public events.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Michael E. Marelli

SECONDER: Barbara Kil

AYE 5 Levandoski Holdridge Edgecomb Kil Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Harwood Buhle

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

Motion to AUTHORIZE Chairman Marelli to write a letter of support for the Alliance for the Mystic River Watershed to apply for a NOA grant, contingent on discussions with Mayor Fred Allen III.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: David Holdridge

SECONDER: Roberta Levandoski

AYE 5 Levandoski Holdridge Edgecomb Kil Marelli

EXCUSED 2 Harwood Buhle

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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