



# TOWN OF LEDYARD

## Conservation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway  
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Chairman  
Mike Marelli

#### Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, May 12, 2026

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

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#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairman Marelli at 6:31 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

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

**Excused** Vice Chair James Harwood

Also in attendance were:  
Residents Dave Schroeder and Anne Roberts-Pierson.

#### III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2026, as written.  
Motion to approve as amended to change "Silas Deane Highway" to "Silas Deane Road".

**RESULT:** APPROVED AS AMENDED

**MOVER:** Michael E. Marelli

**SECONDER:** Kathleen Edgecomb

**AYE** 6 Kil Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski Graham Marelli

**EXCUSED** 1 Harwood

#### IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence.

Letter from Aquarion asking for nominations for environmental awards.  
Quote to upgrading the parking area at Glacier Park.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS****1. Public Comments.**

Mr. Schroeder returned to the Conservation meeting with updates on a proposal for a zoning overlay map for about a quarter acre in Gales Ferry District to establish a Village District, which would be a tool the Town could use when looking at development proposals. Mr. Schroeder was not asking for a formal decision from the Commission but rather involvement in developing such a district.

Ms. Roberts-Pierson presented a letter from Mary Brown and herself, asking the Commission to support the proposal to re-designate Gales Ferry Village to a Village District to maintain the Village's colonial history and preserve the unique ecology of the area for wildlife, water flow and purification, and passive recreation. Ms. Roberts-Pierson also asked about maintenance at the White-Hall property and was hoping paths could be cleared so the public would have better access.

Mr. Schroeder also alerted the Commission to proposed parking changes in the zoning regulations that would weaken the Town's ability to preserve such elements as stone walls and natural topography. The Planning and Zoning Commission will be discussing the proposals at its May 14, 2026, meeting.

**RESULT: DISCUSSED**

**VI. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT****1. Town Council Liaison Report.****VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS****1. Informational items.**

Chairman Marelli and Mr. Cohen put up a table at the Alliance for Mystic River Watershed's third anniversary gathering.

Mr. Cohen said Jon Vander Werff of Trout Unlimited asked if he could make a virtual presentation to the Commission at its next meeting. It will be arranged.

Ms. Graham invited the Commissioners to attend the state Office of Aquatic Invasive Species talk on May 16, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Gales Ferry Senior Center.

Chairman Marelli said one of the Town's future projects would be to look at uses of Pfizer Field. The land is owned by Pfizer and only the baseball fields are open for Town use. There are other trails through the property.

Chairman Marelli reported that he is counting herring.

The tree at Burton Park has been removed.

Nomination for Aquarion Environmental Award for Maggie Favretti has been submitted.

A proposed subdivision at 58 Silas Deane Road will include a 10-foot strip of land for connection to Avalonia open space trails.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. Property Walks.

None this month.

### 2. Financial Reports.

No changes since last month.

### 3. Pollinator Pathways Project continued.

The Town is reviewing site plans for a pavilion at the Lantern Hill Valley Park, but nothing is built yet. Plants cannot yet be put in the ground. Ms. Graham said the pavilion will be named after Janet Barnett, whose cottage overlooks the site.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

### 4. POCD

The Town will be hiring a firm to update the plan of development. This agenda item will be dropped and will be added back, when necessary.

### 5. Ledyard Trails Task Force.

Ongoing discussion.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

### 6. Sustainable CT Certification spreadsheet discussion.

Continued discussion. Need more info from Mr. Harwood about how to submit information on Conservation Commission activities.

### 7. Any Other Old Business to come before the Commission.

None.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Review of the LCC website.

The Town website update will be discussed at future meeting after members look at the website and make suggestions to improve the flow and content.

**RESULT:** DISCUSSED

2. Glacier Park Parking Lot estimate.

Mr. Cohen has an estimate of \$900 for the parking area but it is unclear if that estimate includes filling a deep hole in the entrance driveway. The Commissioners agreed to spend extra money if filling the hole was not included in the estimate.

Motion to APPROVE repairs of a cost up to \$1,200 for Glacier Park parking areas.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Kathleen Edgecomb

**SECONDER:** Barbara Kil

**AYE** 6 Kil Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski Graham Marelli

**EXCUSED** 1 Harwood

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

None.

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 7:56 p.m.

**RESULT:** APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

**MOVER:** Dave Cohen

**SECONDER:** Betsy Graham

**AYE** 6 Kil Cohen Edgecomb Levandoski Graham Marelli

**EXCUSED** 1 Harwood

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