

Town of Montville  
Conservation Commission

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Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2022, 6:00 PM  
Room 102 – Town Hall

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk at [townclerk@montville-ct.org](mailto:townclerk@montville-ct.org) at least **1 working day in advance**. Written comments may not be read in their entirety, but rather similar messages may be aggregated or paraphrased for submission to the Mayor, Council, Board or Commission. Town of Montville has lifted the mask mandate effective Monday, February 28, 2022 throughout Town facilities in coordination with our schools. Although the mask mandate has been lifted, Uncas Health strongly recommends that all individuals, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, continue to wear masks indoors.

- 1) Call to Order-meeting called to order 5:59 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence in Honor of our Military
- 3) Roll Call- present: Chairman Paul Chase, Commissioner Nick Sabilia, Commissioner Jeff Carver, Commissioner Bonnie Bacon; Town Councilor Tim May; Assistant Town Planner Colleen Bezanson.
- 4) Presentations - none
- 5) Alterations to the Meeting Agenda - Commissioner Sabilia made a motion to remove 9 c). Commissioner Bacon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items -none
- 7) Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2022 – Chairman Chase called for a motion to correct a scribe error on 9a) (correct “Commissioner May” to “Councilor May”). Commissioner Carver motioned, Commissioner Sabilia seconded. Discussion – none. Motion approved.
- 8) Communications -none
- 9) Old Business Agenda
  - a) Cleanup @ Hopmead State Park May 21 - time? – the date is changed to June 25, 9:00 a.m. Councilor May will continue to organize details with Chairman Chase (9-9:30 a.m.- history talk; 9:30-10 a.m., cleanup) and Councilor May will advertise this on the calendar, town website, and optionally, Montville times calendar.
  - b) Montville CC update
    - a. community cleanup and/or trail marking May 7? – the date will be changed. This item is tabled until the next meeting.

- b. Funding for sprucing up the entrance/island & border plantings around tree in parking lot; picnic table and bench. Commissioner Sabilia, who has been maintaining trails at the Montville Conservation Center, received a communication from Town Council Chairman McNally asking if the Commission needs more funding for the Conservation Center. Commissioner Sabilia has identified a need for benches, a picnic table, and some esthetic improvements to the parking area. He also cleared a trail from Fair Oaks to the Conservation Center, and identified a need for a bridge along that trail. Commissioner Sabilia and Chairman Chase will develop a formal request for \$5000 for these improvements. Commissioner Carver will make a landscape sketch.
  - c) Mostoway property update -removed from agenda
- 10) New Business Agenda:
- a) Sustainable CT Initiatives – Colleen. The target for submitting activities to qualify for Bronze this year is August 2022. Montville Sustainable CT initiative will not be aiming for that target, but will instead be targeting either spring or fall of 2023. Any activities 2020 or later can be used. Assistant Town Planner Bezanson updated us on rain barrels/Niantic River Watershed activities. She will work with IT to link that website to the MCC site. There has been discussion about rain barrels at Murphy Elementary School (TBD). There was a discussion of having a booth at the Farmer’s Market this summer. There was also a discussion of MCC organizing a “clean the town” day where volunteers from the public and MCC will pick up trash along selected roads. The commissioners can review #1-13 on the Sustainability CT website.
  - b) 2nd Community Presentation by DEEP or other presenter on "Tree ID"? Chairman Chase will ask the DEEP to give a talk and will put that on the calendar.
  - c) As noted at April’s CC meeting and reported in the The Day paper (article published 4/30/2022, provided to Commissioners by Chairman Chase), East Lyme Land Trust recently closed on Nehantic Nature Preserve (301 acres) includes 41 acres in Montville with Trail Heads.
- 10) Comments from the Public -none
- 11) Comments from Town Council Liaison -Councilor May will order lumber and materials for the walkways in the conservation center.
- 12) Comments from Commissioners -Commissioner Carver will require a zoom link for the next several meetings. Commissioner Sabilia provided a web link [https://www.patronicity.com/project/horton\\_cove\\_trail\\_eagle\\_scout\\_project?fbclid=IwAR1iCotewyzwzzkZl6QUoG\\_pB9s7zW9lgpZ3eAxac7qyfDH89NrSi-o-jnE#!/](https://www.patronicity.com/project/horton_cove_trail_eagle_scout_project?fbclid=IwAR1iCotewyzwzzkZl6QUoG_pB9s7zW9lgpZ3eAxac7qyfDH89NrSi-o-jnE#!/) so that people can donate to or volunteer for Tyler Lawton’s Eagle Scout project, which entails developing a trail at Horton Cove.
- 13) Adjourn-Commissioner Carver motioned to adjourn, and Commissioner Sabilia seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.