

Town of Montville
Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2022, 6:00 PM
Room 102 – Town Hall

- 1) Call to Order- 6:00 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence in Honor of our Military
- 3) Roll Call -Chairman Paul Chase, Commissioner Nick Sabilia, Commissioner Bonnie Bacon, Commissioner Jessica LeClair, Assistant Planner Colleen Bezanson, and Town Council Liaison Tim May were present.
- 4) Presentations -none
- 5) Alterations to the Meeting Agenda -none
- 6) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items -none
- 7) Approval of Special Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2022. Commissioner Sabilia motioned to approve the minutes, Commissioner Bacon seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- 8) Communications -none
- 9) Old Business Agenda
 - a) Reminder: July 9 Hopemead State Park cleanup/walk 9-10:30 a.m. Commissioner Sabilia will advertise on Facebook, Commissioner Bacon filled out an online form to put it on The Day calendar and sent the information to Katie Haring to post on the Town of Montville calendar. Assistant Planner Bezanson requested that Commissioners take photos to document our publicity efforts, and record how many members of the public show up, as required by Sustainability CT guidelines.
 - b) Montville Conservation Center update -Commissioner Sabilia and Councilor May submitted purchase orders for: 2 picnic tables, boards/lumber for improving the entrance area, and a new entrance sign that will be positioned perpendicular to the entrance to replace the existing sign. The Department of Public Works (DPW) staff will pick up the lumber from Home Depot tomorrow. Commissioner LeClair brought up previous concerns brought by a member of the public regarding how placing a picnic table near the pond would result in trash at the pond. Councilor May will ask DPW to site a trash bin at the pond and empty it regularly. Councilor May walked with the GIS on the main trails and needs to finish by walking the foot trail. He will provide the data to Assistant Planner Bezanson when he's done. Commissioner Sabilia noted that the dead tree in the

parking lot is marked for removal. All of the attendees had comments on possible improvements to the center island in the parking lot, including bushes and mulch, phlox and evergreens, a border with rocks, fruit trees, native and pollinator friendly plants, and a student contest to determine who will paint a large rock at the edge of the parking lot. Commissioner Chase offered to meet with anyone that the commission identifies to help with planning what goes into this center area.

- c) Nehantic Nature Preserve visit suggested at June meeting. Results? -Several members went to the Maiville Road entrance. There is a wide trail at that point.
- d) Save the Sound Webinar assessment – Commissioner Bacon shared some highlights from the webinar, particularly with respect to what was said about Montville. The slides are available for circulation, but it is better to wait until the entire Webinar is available before circulation.

10) New Business Agenda:

- a) Discussion of participating with the Town of Bozrah in funding the Open Space and Watershed Acquisition Grant that was awarded to them for the acquisition of property located off of Walker Rd owned by the Glemboskis. The mayor received an email from the First Selectman of Bozrah asking if the Town would be interested in funding a portion of the acquisition.
Assistant Planner Bezanson reviewed the request, i.e. as stated in the email she provided, the project was partially funded at \$300k, and the Town of Bozrah is requesting additional funds (\$23k-\$25k). There is only \$5k in the Montville Open Space Fund. It was noted that the Commission previously wrote a letter in support of this project. Assistant Planner Bezanson will collect more information to bring to the Commission.
- b) Invasive Species Presentation Discussion. Frank Cervo will return to provide a 1 hour presentation. Commissioner Sabilia made a motion to have the presentation on Aug 2, at 7:00 p.m. (after the regularly scheduled MCC meeting). Commissioner Bacon seconded. The motion carried. The Commissioners may advertise the talk at the Farmer's Market on August 2nd, as well as through the usual channels, once a flyer is received from Frank Cervo.
- c) The list of projects that the Commission wants to do. No further discussion

11) Comments from the Public -none

12) Comments from Town Council Liaison. Installation of the new sign, lumber and picnic tables is expected to take place during the Aug-Oct timeframe.

13) Comments from Commissioners-none

14) Adjourn- Commissioner Sabilia made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bacon seconded. The motion was carried in a vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.