

Town of Montville
Conservation Commission

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

- 1) Call to Order – meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence in Honor of our Military
- 3) Roll Call – Chairman Chase and Commissioners LeClair, Sabilia, Carver, and Bacon were present. Also present were Assistant Planner Bezanson and Councilor May
- 4) Presentations -none
- 5) Alterations to the Meeting Agenda -none
- 6) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items -none
- 7) Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 2, 2022 -Commissioner Bacon moved to approve the meeting minutes, and Commissioner Carver seconded the motion. Chairman Chase took a vote. Results were unanimous. Motion carried.
- 8) Communications -none
- 9) Old Business Agenda
 - a) Update on wetland permits -Councilor May stated that a permit was required for the activity at the Conservation Center and the Inland Wetlands Commission will vote on it at their September 15th meeting. Staff will represent the Conservation Commission at the meeting. No issues are expected.
 - b) Public Works - remove huge tree stump in center island. Chairman Chase indicated that the tree stump must be removed to allow for the plantings as suggested by Frank Cervo. Councilor May will consult the Department of Public Works (DPW) regarding removal.
 - c) Report from Frank Cervo on parking area plantings (Frank also chose to do a written report of the woodlands - available at meeting). Chairman Chase received a report from Frank Cervo on the condition of the Conservation Center, as well as general recommendations for plantings. One recommendation is to have plants in flower all season in the island. Chairman Chase followed up and is waiting for more specific recommendations from Frank Cervo. The report included comments about beech trees having beech bark disease. Commissioner LeClair offered to search for CT sustainability funds to help resolve this issue.

- d) Determine specific native shrubs (#)/ center tree to be purchased/planted and where to purchase. Chairman Chase suggested a dogwood or crab tree. He will work out a more detailed plan and bring a recommendation to the next meeting. Assistant Planner Bezanson recommends talking with a plant retailer in town such as the Plant Lot on Rte. 85 .
- e) Determine work day for installing additions/improvements. The conservation commission is currently waiting for a wetlands permit approval before moving forward with work. Commissioner Sabilia is working on scheduling Sept 25, between 12-3:00 p.m, as a work day or pre- work day assessment meeting.

10) New Business Agenda:

- a) Discussion of Invasive Species Presentation and possible Invasive Insects Presentation. Assistant Planner Bezanson noted that about 10 members of the public were present at the talk, and some had good discussions with Frank Cervo after his presentation. At this presentation he had photos of the plants and had examples that the audience could look at. Commissioners agreed that they would like to hear an invasive insects presentation. Assistant Planner Bezanson will look for a speaker. Commissioner Carver suggested a future talk on poisonous plants, to help hikers become aware of plants that may be encountered; Councilor May and Commissioner Sabilia noted that a talk on archaeological features and indigenous relics in the area would be of interest. Commissioner LeClair suggested talking with the Mohegan tribe.
- b) Sustainable CT Update –
 - i. Discussion about adding links to environmental information on the Conservation Commission Page on Town Website. Assistant Planner Bezanson provided an example webpage with a button layout that could be linked to the MCC page and discussed some options. She requested input from Commissioners and stated that she will bring the ideas of the Commission to the IT department. One idea from Commissioner LeClair was to have a direct hot link from the Montville Town Website. A related discussion which email to use to contact MCC took place. The MCC can also cross-post events with, for instance, the Parks and Rec commission.
- c) Bond site walk with Avalonia. Reserve a spot. Commissioners who would like to attend need to RSVP via the email links provided by Assistant Planner Bezanson. Two walks are scheduled: Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

11) Comments from the Public -none

12) Comments from Town Council Liaison -none

13) Comments from Commissioners- none

14) Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Carver and seconded by Commissioner LeClair. Vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned 7:08 p.m.