

Town of Montville
Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2021, 7:15 PM
Room 102 – Town Hall

- Call to Order - 7:15 p.m.
- Roll - Chairman Chase, Commissioner Carver, Commissioner Bacon, and Councilor May are here
- Approval of Meeting Agenda – no additions
- Comments from the Public on Agenda Items – no comments
- Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 3, 2021 – correction of “Chair” title. All in favor, motion carried.
- Old Business
 - Discuss Montville Conservation Center Operations and Maintenance
 - Review status of elevated walkways in wetlands at the Nature Center. Councilor May sent a letter to Don Bourdeau regarding the entrance sign, trimming the weeds along the side of the trail, and ideas for construction of elevated walkways. Chairman Chase commented on potential excess lumber at DW Trucking. Councilor May will relay this information to Don Bourdeau.
 - Review status of kiosk, trail markers, entrance sign – Commissioner Carver and Councilor May replaced the plexiglass sheet on the kiosk and plan to recreate a wooden roof for the kiosk. Commissioner Carver will look into picture-framing the kiosk. Commissioner May suggested additionally looking into signs that would be helpful, for instance for where the trails cross, as a future endeavor. Commissioner Carver made a motion to relocate the entrance break in the girders closer to the entrance sign and to move the recycle bins behind the girders. Seconded by Chairman Chase, all in favor, motion passed.
 - American Rescue Plan – request for funds from Conservation Commission. Chairman Chase requested \$10,000 via email, request was received by the Town Council subcommittee.

- New Business
 - Discuss Town of Bozrah's pending open space grant with DEEP and subsequent sale to Avalonia Land Conservancy - which includes Montville property. Chairman Chase received a communication from Sam Alexander. Avalonia will purchase 160 acre property on South Road in Bozrah, directly adjacent to the Milo Light preserve (105 acres in Bozrah and 55 acres in Montville) if they get a grant from DEEP and will make it accessible with trails. Chairman Chase is in favor of more trail access for the people of Montville. Commissioner Carver makes a motion that the Chair will write a letter of support to Mr Alexander, Chairman Chase seconds, motion passed. Letter will note that we'd like (parking) access via the Montville side of the property.
- Comments from the Public – no comments
- Comments from Municipal Liaison - Town Council meets next Monday, Councilor May will report out from this meeting
- Comments from Commissioners -Jessica LeClair provided the following comment via email. During the comments from Commissioners section of the agenda I was going to let the Commission know I had a call this week with the Board President of the Avalonia Land Conservancy. We wrote them a letter of support for a 2020 application to DEEP in which they were awarded 2.5\$ million for purchase of the Bond property in Montville. Very exciting! They have purchase agreements in place, but still need to come up with the remaining 2\$ million needed for the sale. This was just an intro call at her request. In time, she might be interested in speaking at one of our meetings to pick our brains on the process moving forward. No action is needed or requested on our part, I just wanted to share the update.
- Adjourn – Chair brought a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., so moved.