



## GOSHEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### Minutes - October 7, 2026 - Meeting - Goshen Town Hall Conference Room and Zoom

#### Page 2 - Goshen Town Hall Planting Beds:

- Iain shared that he would reach out to Mr. Gino Masi, the Agriscience teacher (Natural Resources) at Lakeview High School, to see if GCC could get the assistance of the agriscience students to help with the fall clean up of the Town Hall front border and future spring assistance.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- 2027 Meeting Dates:** Dates will be submitted to Barbara Breor - Town Clerk.

January 6, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, July - NO MEETING, August 4, September 1,

October 6, November 3, and December 1

- Iain shared email correspondence from Amanda Branson of **Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy (NCLC)**, requesting two letters of support for grants that they are seeking from **Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)**:

1. Support requested for **Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy's** application for an Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition grant from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. This application seeks funding to permanently protect  $\pm 115$  acres of **Camp Strang** in Goshen, Connecticut. Goshen Land Trust will be a partner in the permanent protection of **Camp Strang**. The proposed conservation easement would protect 59% of the camp, which is exclusive of the areas utilized for camp operations and any future expansion of camp operations. Protecting **Camp Strang** will conserve an intact forested landscape while safeguarding habitat connectivity and the natural systems that support rare species. Its combination of core forest, regional wildlife connectivity, and documented State-listed species gives the property significant conservation value at both the local and regional scale.

2. Support requested for **Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy's** application for an Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition grant from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. This application seeks funding to permanently protect  $\pm 567$  acres of land in Goshen and Cornwall, Connecticut - **Mohawk Forest Expansion**. Conservation acquisitions of this size are exceptionally rare. Based on NCLC's GIS analysis of parcel ownership, and excluding water-company supply lands, only five unconserved properties of 600 acres or more in Litchfield County are held by a single entity. The **Mohawk Forest Expansion** presents an unusual opportunity to protect a large, predominantly forested property that directly adjoins an extensive network of conserved lands. Its protection would strengthen the ecological integrity and connectivity of the broader Mohawk Forest landscape while conserving significant habitat, agricultural, climate-resilience, scenic, and recreational resources. Its combination of core forest, regional wildlife connectivity, and documented State-listed species gives the property significant conservation value at both the local and regional scale.

Paul Gallo made a motion, and it was seconded by Cindy Barrett, to have Iain Kinsella, Chair, prepare 2 letters to NCLC voicing our support from the Goshen Conservation Commission for their land acquisitions of Camp Strang and Mohawk Forest Expansion grants. The motion carried.

- NEXT MEETING - November 4, 2026, at 6:30 PM.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Gallo, and seconded by Cindy Barrett at 7:01 p.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cynthia A. Barrett*  
Cynthia A. Barrett

Received Oct 15, 2026 @ 10:38 A.M.

Attest *Barbara Breor*  
Barbara Breor  
Goshen Town Clerk