

Conservation Commission of the Town of Litchfield

Land Use Office, 80 Doyle Road, PO Box 12, Bantam, CT 06750

Regular Members

Mark Austin, Secretary
John Cox
Cleve Fuessenich
Barbara Putnam, Chair
Jordan Richards
Diane Stoner, Vice Chair
Marcia Fowler

Alternates

Chester Reed
Vacancy

Draft Minutes REGULAR MEETING

September 17, 2025

7 PM, Bantam Town Hall Annex, Bantam, CT

Barbara Putnam called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members Present: Mark Austin, Cleve Fuessenich Barbara Putnam, Marcia Fowler, and Spenser Musselman, Jordan Richards, Diane Stoner, and Chester Reed

Members Absent: John Cox, and Jordan Richards

Others Present: Spencer Musselman

Appointment of Alternates: Appointment of Chester Reed to a regular member seat

Approval of Minutes – A motion to approve August minutes by Fuessenich, seconded by Austin, unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Open Space Acquisition Project:

Discuss financing options for open space:

Putnam has begun to gather information about the status of the Property Conveyance Tax in Litchfield.

We need a legal opinion on whether the Open Space Acquisition Funds can be used for non-acquisition costs, such as appraisals and surveys.

Discuss open space plan:

A draft of the Open Space plan was circulated and discussed. A copy of the open space policy would be included in the final document.

Review current website

The web map is already out of date and needs a revision to include the Putnam and Milde properties. Spencer will put the updated map on the website.

The Purpose of the Conservation Commission is to develop and conserve natural resources, to conduct research into the current utilization and future possible utilization of land areas of the town, and to keep an index of all open areas, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas.

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Natural and Community Resource Inventory Project:

We asked Spencer to ask Stacy Deming to get us numbers for the percentage of protected and percentage of undeveloped (5x and 10x the minimum lot size) land in town

New Business

Enforcement of Conservation easements

We asked Spencer to give us a list of the properties that have conservation easements in favor of the Town.

Correspondence:

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New members: no updates

Review of action items

- Putnam and Fuessenich will look into Conveyance Tax
- Musselman will follow up on updates on the maps

Adjournment **Adjournment:** at 8:22 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting:

- Regular Meeting September 17, 2025.

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