

Conservation Commission of the Town of Litchfield

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

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

November 19, 2025

7 PM, Bantam Town Hall Annex, Bantam, CT

Members Present: Barbara Putnam, Mark Austin, Diane Stoner and Chester Reed

Members Absent: John Cox, Cleveland Fuessenich, Marcia Fowler, Jordan Richards

Call to order: Barbara Putnam called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Appointment of alternates: Chester Reed was appointed to a regular seat

Approval of September 2025 minutes Diane Stoner made a motion to approve September minutes, Chester Reed seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Old Business:

Open Space Acquisition Project

Discuss open space plan - Discussed not pinpointing specific parcels for preservation. Instead we can describe the characteristics of areas that we believe are worth preserving.

Discuss financing options for open space – no action

Review website

Barbara reported that she has found the raw data for a scenic road survey the Commission did over ten years ago. It could be made into a map and used to evaluate open space parcels. Mark Austin made and Diane Stoner seconded a motion to use scenic roads as a criterion for preserving open space, and all voted in favor.

Natural And Community Resource inventory Project – no action

Enforcement of Conservation Easements – Spencer is absent

List of Conservation Easements – Spencer is absent

New Business:

Adopt 2026 meeting schedule

All agreed by unanimous consent to the 2026 meeting schedule.

Coordination with P&Z and Sustainable Litchfield on the Open Space Plan.

Barbara will reach out to Carol Bramley of P&Z and Diane will contact Daniela Larsson of Sustainable Litchfield.

Correspondence – none

New members – there were no suggestions regarding filling the vacant alternate seat.

Review of Action Items

Diane's expenses of \$53 for the January event refreshments have not yet been reimbursed.

We did not attend the CACIWC because of miscommunication with the office staff.

Our room was given to another group for their meeting, even though it was ours on the calendar

Spencer has not yet followed up with the Town Attorney, nor provided us with the list of properties on which the Town owns conservation easements.

Barbara will meet with Denise Raap about these issues.

Diane will contact Preservation Litchfield

Barbara will contact P&Z

Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.