

Conservation Commission of the Town of Litchfield

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

Regular Members

Mark Austin, Chair

John Baker

John Cox

Cleve Fuessenich

Barbara Putnam

Jordan Richards, Vice Chair

Diane Stoner

Alternates

Draft Minutes REGULAR MEETING

January 24, 2023

7 PM, Bantam Town Hall Annex, Bantam, CT

Call to order, roll call, changes to agenda

7:05

Members in attendance: Austin, Baker, Cox, Fuessenich, Putnam, Richards,

Members absent: Stoner

Public in attendance: Dean Birdsall, Director of Litchfield Land Trust

1. Appointment of Alternates:
2. Approval of Minutes –Baker moved, Putnam seconded, unanimous.
3. Open Space Acquisition Project
 - Putnam did some updates to refer to the new PoCAD. She will send the section so we can review.
4. Natural and Community Resource Inventory Project
 - No new information
5. Old Business:
 - Tim Abbott potential speaker. Change to our March meeting, Tuesday (our meeting date). Subject to speak about how a town can avail themselves of grants and other funding sources for open space. He can also discuss what to preserve. Working on a location. Discussed other groups and invitations.
6. New Business –
 - Solar farm next to WPC – Inland wetlands and P&Z both voted down the proposal. The site has some of the oldest trees in Connecticut. May also restrict where the WPCA may need to expand.
 - Mapping Open Space – The town has a pdf and paper map of easements. PW department has a map. There are very few easement details. The different systems do not communicate well. David Thomas used to had a database up to date with details of each easement. NW Conservation District helped incorporate. Cleve may have a copy of the database. It is outdated with current easement.
7. Public Comment:
 - Dean Birdsall – Discussed improving the accessibility to the mapping of easements and conservation of Open Space. Sustainable Litchfield has an action item about how to address this. Discussed some of the resources and potential about working together.
8. New Members – Kay Winter is interested but could not be here tonight (D. Birdsall)
9. Correspondence:
 - None received
 - Spenser Mussleman is the new Land Use Administrator
10. Review of Action Items

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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- Continuation of sections for projects.
- Create discussion with Mr. Abbott.

11. Adjournment

8:15 p

Next regularly scheduled meeting: February 28, 2023