1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Meeting called to order at 5:00pm by Amanda Hill.

2. **ROLL CALL**
   The following individuals were present: Amanda Hill, Leanne Marvin, Willard Platt, Jen Perga, and Renata Waldron. John Wiarda was absent excused. Staff member Lance Hansen, Town Planner; Ted Shafer, Economic Development Director; Katie Vaill, Director of Social Services; Director of Public Works, Jim Rollins; and Linda Groppo, BOS representative, were present.

3. **OLD BUSINESS**
   A. Discussion regarding neighborhood clean-up challenge inspired by ‘nipper bottle’ mitigation of liter reaching street catch basins and then the rivers, streams, lakes. Ms. Vail noted the need for a culture change and Ms. Hill is in favor of a trial run. A subcommittee will follow up for meeting to discuss the details needed to coordinate this event. Mr. Rollins also noted the bears in town getting into neighborhood trash which then leads to the litter that no one wants to be responsible for the clean-up.
   
   B. **Second Annual River Clean Up Event**: Discussion and organization. The event will be held on Saturday September 23rd, 2023. Flyer will be produced by Candice Bouchard with the assistance of Ms. Marvin.
   
   C. **Urban Green/Community Garden Grant Update**: Distressed community grant discussion. Narrowed down project scope to two sites: Wallens Hill Community Garden and Tatro Park.
   
   D. **Rain Garden planning project with Farmington River Watershed Association**: need to reconvene with Laura Hart for FRWA regarding application for grant funds for the Resha Beach potential rain garden project and urban green ‘pocket park’ project for the corner of Hurlburt and Birdsall Streets.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**
   **Sustainable CT**: Preparation for town to receive Silver Certification. Continue to meet with Sustainable CT intern Ryan Ziemnicki for next steps for the team to work towards.
   Ms. Perga spoke with the commission regarding the potential Laurel Ridge open space acquisition project of 500+ acres near the center of town and above Highland Lake.
   Ms. Perga also introduced two guests: Mika Gauger and Adam Ginsburg, who expressed an interest in becoming new board members for the Conservation Commission.

5. **MINUTES APPROVAL**
   Ms. Hill makes a motion to approve the June 8, 2023 as presented. Ms. Marvin seconded the motion, and all were unanimously in favor.

6. **COMMUNICATIONS**
7. OTHER BUSINESS
   Open topics

8. ADJOURN
   Motion to adjourn at 5:59pm. by Ms. Hill. The motion was seconded by Ms. Perga and the group was unanimously in favor.

   Respectfully submitted,
   Lance Hansen – Town Planner and Conservation Commission staff