

**Town of Winchester
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Town Hall, 338 Main Street
2nd Floor, P. Francis Hicks Room
February 8th, 2024 – 5:00 PM
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Amanda Hill calls the meeting to order at 5:04PM. In attendance are commission members Jen Perga, Willie Platt, Renee Waldron, LeeAnn Marvin (5:08PM), Lance Hansen (Town Planner), Sally Chesney (41 Lewis Street), Bill Hester (BOS Liaison) and Tom Heuschkel (Budget & Grants Manager).

2. Agenda Review

None

3. New Business

- A. Town Planner Lance Hansen leads discussion on opportunities for trail planning within town. Town Grants Manager Tom Heuschkel aids in the discussion with regards to prospective and confirmed funding for different projects. The plan to continue the Sue Grossman Trail from Torrington into Winsted is discussed, with trail site opportunities supported by local business owners and DPW director Jim Rollins. Other prospective trail routes are considered on the Still River Greenway/Rte. 8 North, Mad River Recreation Area (Rugg Brook Road), "Prospect Trail", Platt Hill Blue Blaze Hiking Trail and Tatro Park trails and improvements.
- B. Discussion to resurrect a "Winsted Trails" organization. Opportunities to join and work with Torrington trails groups, as they are active and possibly willing to work with Winsted volunteers.
- C. Discussion regarding a link or webpage to direct residents in town (and elsewhere) to explore, highlight and promote recreational activities in Winsted. Can our Communications Coordinator help with this task?

4. Old Business

- A. Discussion on open space planning, lead by Town Planner Lance Hansen. Detailed maps are available and shared to help explain open space planning within Winsted. Need/desire to protect ridgeline steep slopes as they provide desirable view points and beautiful scenic routes around town.

5. Minutes Approval

Amanda Hill makes a motion to approve the Conservation Commission meeting Minutes from the January 11th, 2024 meeting. Jen Perga seconded the motion, and the motion is unanimously approved.

6. Communications

None

7. Other Business

Open Topics – Spring lecture series. Bee Works and/or "Master Gardener", Sarah Bailey.

8. Adjournment

Amanda Hill makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:01PM. Jen Perga seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Dombrowski, CCTC
Asst. Town Clerk, Town of Winchester
Board Clerk

