

Town of Montville  
Conservation Commission

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Special Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Room 102 – Town Hall

**Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk at [townclerk@montville-ct.org](mailto:townclerk@montville-ct.org) at least **1 working day in advance**.**

**Written comments may not be read in their entirety, but rather similar messages may be aggregated or paraphrased for submission to the Mayor, Council, Board or Commission. Town of Montville has lifted the mask mandate effective Monday, February 28, 2022 throughout Town facilities in coordination with our schools. Although the mask mandate has been lifted, Uncas Health strongly recommends that all individuals, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, continue to wear masks indoors.**

- 1) Call to Order -6:00 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence in Honor of our Military- conducted.
- 3) Roll Call -Chairperson Paul Chase, Commissioner Nick Sabilia, and Commissioner Bonnie Bacon were present. Also, Assistant Planner Colleen Bezanson and Town Councilor Tim May were present.
- 4) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items - none
- 5) Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 3, 2022. Commissioner Sabilia made a motion to approve, Commissioner Bacon seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 6) Communications-none
- 7) Old Business Agenda
  - a) Hopemead Cleanup June 25 – Commissioner Sabilia moved to reschedule the event to July 9, 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Bacon seconded. Motion was passed unanimously. This event will be advertised and sponsored by the MCC. Chairperson Chase will provide a brief history of the area at 9:00 a.m.
  - b) Montville CC update. \$5000 request for CC approved by Council. Discuss date, time & work to be done. Commissioner Sabilia has evaluated pricing for picnic tables for the Conservation Center, including one near the entrance and one near the pond. It's likely that recycled hard plastic would be the most resilient material. A bridge on the trail to the community center is recommended. Plantings around the tree in the center of the parking lot were envisioned; however, the health of the tree will be reviewed because it doesn't have leaves on it. Regarding the \$10k ARPA funds (also approved), a sawmill has been contacted by Councilor May regarding provision of 75 cedar boards priced at \$40 each

for walkways over wetlands. The ARPA funds will also cover new entrance signs.

ACTION: Commissioner Bacon will re-circulate the list of observations regarding the Conservation Center. The Assistant Planner will check on the account numbers and how to obtain a purchase order.

- c) Nehantic Nature Preserve-Chairperson Chase suggested that all commissioners visit the site individually when they can.
  - d) Discuss possibility of other Sustainable initiatives. There was a discussion of the sustainable CT commission activities.
  - e) Tyler Lawton's Eagle Scout project-Commissioner Sabilia provided an update. This project is in the fund-raising stage. Fund-raising has surpassed the goal.
- 10) New Business Agenda:
- a) Critique of Tree ID Presentation by Frank Cervo. The Tree ID presentation was very well received. It went a little long and there were suggestions to focus future talks to the time limit, including perhaps focusing on species that are seen in our area. Assistant Planner Bezanson will contact Frank Cervo to arrange another talk on invasive species.
  - b) Sustainable CT initiatives update – Assistant Planner Bezanson has identified a webinar on Save the Sound for June 23. If two or more commissioners from one commission attend a webinar relevant to their field, we can earn credit toward Sustainable CT certification. Commissioners will let AP Bezanson know after we attend the webinar. We can also view a webinar in the same year if we can't attend in person. Commissioner Sabilia and Commissioner Bacon indicated that they would sign up for the Save the Sound webinar.
- 11) Comments from the Public- none
- 12) Comments from Town Council Liaison – Councilor May plans to conduct a walk with the GPS equipment before the next meeting.
- 13) Comments from Commissioners-none. Comment from Assistant Planner Bezanson that the Governor said a Zoom link for Commissioners can be used but the link must be included on the agenda, which must be posted 48 hours before the meeting. The link is not for use by the public. If an agenda is not available, a notice with the link must be posted 48 hours before the meeting.
- 14) Adjourn- Commissioner Sabilia made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bacon. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.