

Town of Montville
Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2025, 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 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.**

- 1) Call to Order -6:05 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call -Chair John Guetens, Vice Chair Jessica LeClair, Commissioner Bonnie Bacon, Alternate Commissioner Elaine Hess, and Town Council Liaison Nick Sabilia were present. Alternate Commissioner Elaine Hess was read in as a voting member.
- 4) Presentations -none
- 5) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items -none
- 6) Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 1, 2025 – Vice Chair LeClair motioned to approve, Chair Guetens seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
- 7) Communications – Chair Guetens received an email from Girl Scout troop 63034 leader Liz Preiss. The troop is interested in setting up a letter box in the Conservation Center. Chair Guetens will email Troop Leader Preiss to let her know the idea was well-received by commissioners.
- 8) Old Business Agenda
 - a) Montville Trails System brochure review – Vice Chair LeClair motioned to table discussion until a later meeting. Commissioner Hess seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b) CT Trails Day (June 7-8, 2025) planning – Vice Chair LeClair has set up the information on the CT Trails Day website (trailsday.org). The event will take place 10 am-12 pm on Saturday, June 7, and will include a scavenger hunt from 10 am-12 pm and a guided tour at 10:30 am. Vice Chair LeClair, Chair Guetens, and Commissioner Heckle are the designated leaders. Vice Chair LeClair will confirm whether Commissioner Heckle is available to lead the guided tour. Chair Guetens will post the information on the Conservation Commission Facebook page and also email the Girl Scouts. Commissioner Hess will contact Principal Alves at Montville High School and Town Clerk Katie Haring. Commissioners Hess and Bacon will prepare signs (with balloons) for the event

(e.g. “Conservation Center event today”). Commissioner Hess has the bag of magnifying glasses and other materials for the scavenger hunt. Commissioners plan to show up at 9:30 a.m.

- c) Conservation Center update – walkways/bridges from the Fair Oaks entrance have been completed. A workday was proposed for Sunday, March 18 at 11 am. Chair Guetens will post this event information on the Conservation Commission Facebook page. Chair Guetens noted there are salamander eggs in the pond.
- d) Garden club update - Vice Chair LeClair motioned to table discussion until a later meeting. Commissioner Bacon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9) New Business Agenda

- a) Review and discuss spending on budget – There is \$490 left in the Conservation Commission account across various categories. Vice Chair LeClair motioned to combine all of the money to purchase a string trimmer (weed trimmer), which was previously identified by Commissioner Hess and approved by the commission but not purchased. Commissioner Bacon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Hess will consult with the Finance Director and Chair Guetens will request a purchase order.
- b) Proposal to add Lawton Trail at Horton Cove to CT Trail finder – Vice Chair LeClair will look into the information needed.

10) Comments from the Public -none

11) Comments from Town Council Liaison – Town Councilor Sabilia stated that July 1 is Community Night at the Montville Farmers market. The Commissioners can discuss moving their July 1 meeting to take place at the farmers market at the June meeting. He mentioned that the Nips project is going well, in that several groups have applied to pick up trash in return for the \$500 stipend awarded. More groups should be encouraged to participate.

12) Comments from Commissioners – Commissioner Bacon stated she emailed Apparel Impact, which recycles unusable clothes, and they emailed back stating that they have bins at the Montville Transfer station to accept both reusable and recyclable clothing. Town Council Liaison Sabilia mentioned that the commission can request presentations regarding recycling and composting in Montville.

13) Adjourn -7:45 p.m.