

Town of Montville  
Conservation Commission

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Special Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 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](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.**

- 1) Call to Order -6:01 pm
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call -Chair John Guetens, Commissioners Adam Heckle, Catherine Hinojosa, and Bonnie Bacon (Secretary), Town Council Liaison Nick Sabilia, Town Council Chair Tim May and Mayor Leonard Bunnell Sr.
- 4) Presentations -none
- 5) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items -none
- 6) Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2025 -Secretary Bacon noted there is a formatting error which she has corrected. Motion to approve by Commissioner Heckle, seconded by Commissioner Hinojosa. Unanimously approved in a voice vote.
- 7) Communications - none
- 8) Old Business Agenda
  - a) Conservation Center update – Commissioner Heckle said that the boardwalk by the pond was extended by 32 feet. Chair Guetens weeded the garden in the parking lot and used a string trimmer to cut down weeds as needed. Chair Guetens led a discussion of suggestions to deter motorized bikes, which are not allowed in the conservation center, on the bridge or trails. Chair Guetens will set up a work day at the Conservation Center on **Oct 4 (Saturday), 9:30 am** and will post this information on the Conservation Commission Facebook page.
  - b) Garden club update – Commissioner Heckle stated that the Garden Club (GC) cleaned up the Town Hall parking lot and memorial gardens, and will work with the Mayor and Dept of Public Works (DPW) to get some trees removed from the parking lot garden. The GC will work on the Town Hall gardens next. Mayor Bunnell encouraged the GC to reach out to his Executive Assistant Cindy Breton regarding sending a notification via the town app to let residents know about Garden Club events. The GC is considering planning a garden near the entrance of Lawton Trail. Note: Girl Scout Troop Leader Liz Preiss, a guest at the

meeting, brought up that it is a troop goal to develop a conservation-related project, for instance a low-water garden, which the troop would install and maintain.

- c) Review and discuss spending on budget
  - i. Memberships and conferences -Vice Chair LeClair had shared information and costs via email regarding the following organizations and conference.
    - (1) CACIWC: <https://www.caciwc.org/index.html>
    - (2) CLCC: <https://ctconservation.org/conference/>
- d) Booth at Farmer's market
  - i. Banner update – Commissioner (Alternate) Elaine Hess shared quotes on banners (4 different options) and event signs from Copycats. Discussion favored the 8' x 12" banner option, with grommets. Chair Guetens requested a proof of the banner for the next meeting so that a vote can take place.

9) New Business Agenda

10) Comments from the Public – Troop Leader Liz Preiss said that her troop is looking for letterboxing locations in Montville. Ideas include the Conservation Center, Lawton Trail, and Camp Oakdale. Commissioners may attend a future Troop meeting.

11) Comments from Town Council Liaison - none

12) Comments from Commissioners - none

13) Adjourn -7:38 p.m.