

Town of Montville  
Conservation Commission

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Meeting Minutes  
May 5, 2026, 6:00 PM  
Room 102 – Town Hall

- 1) Call to Order -6:02 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call - Vice Chair Jessica LeClair (Acting Chair for this meeting), Commissioner Adam Heckle, Commissioner Catherine Hinojosa, Secretary Bonnie Bacon, and Alternate Commissioner Elaine Hess; Town Council Liaison Nick Sabilia, Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr. A motion was made by Acting Chair LeClair to have Alternate Commissioner Hess read in as a voting Commissioner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Heckle, and was unanimously approved.
- 4) Presentations -none
- 5) Comments from the Public on Agenda Items - none
- 6) Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2026 - Commissioner Hinojosa motioned to approve, Commissioner Heckle seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- 7) Communications -none
- 8) Old Business Agenda
  - a) Trails Day discussion and planning
    - i. Event Signs – Commissioners Hinojosa and Heckle will order signs in the next couple of days. Flyers were also developed by Commissioner Hinojosa. She will add mention to the flyer that the America 250 sign event will start immediately afterward in the same area, near Lawton Trails. Commissioner Hess will forward to the schools, Mohegan Firehouse, Senior Center, MYSB, and she will provide a copy to the Town Clerk for posting electronically.
    - ii. Registration (event was registered). Registered by Acting Chair LeClair. Information is on trailsday.org website.
    - iii. Events planning -Acting chair LeClair recommended bringing a table. Commissioner Hess will bring scavenger hunt materials. Event will begin at 10 am, end at 12 pm.
  - b) America 250/Montville 250 update -Commissioner Hess described Lafayette sign as two-sided. There was discussion about placing the sign near the sidewalk in front of the Public Safety complex and trail area. Commissioner Hess stated that the sign reveal will occur at 12 p.m. on June 6. Later in the year, a white oak (liberty tree) will be donated by the State of Connecticut to commemorate America 250. July 8 : the declaration of independence will be read at 6 p.m. in front of Town Hall. July 4: church bells possibly will be rung at 2 p.m., 13 times to represent the original colonies.

- c) Conservation Center update - A workday took place on Saturday April 11. The parking lot was cleaned, garden was weeded, and walkways were repaired.
- d) Garden club update – Bella’s Garden looks great. Good quality soil was donated and mulch will be installed in the lower garden this week. Work is ongoing at the Town Hall garden, this Saturday May 9, 10-12. Haughton Cove garden work with the Girl Scouts is ongoing this month, as well as gardening around the sign at the bottom of Fitch Hill Rd. Flowers were planted in containers in front of Fair Oaks.
- e) Nips update –Town Councilor Sabilia said that the Boy Scouts have participated in the cleanup program. Over \$120,000 is left. Acting Chair LeClair suggested some compost collectors for the elementary schools, or hiring a part time recycling coordinator.
- f) Budget update – Commissioner Heckle suggested purchase of tree identification tags. There is a freeze on the town budget but this will be brought up at a later meeting.

9) New Business Agenda -none

10) Comments from the Public -none

11) Comments from Town Council Liaison – Town Councilor Sabilia recommended inviting a SCRRRA representative to one of our meetings.

12) Comments from Commissioners-none

13) Adjourn -Commissioner Hinojosa motioned to adjourn, Commissioner LeClair seconded.