

Conservation Commission of the Town of Litchfield

Land Use Office, 80 Doyle Road, PO Box 12, Bantam, CT 06750

Regular Members

Mark Austin, Chair

John Baker

Cleve Fuessenich, Vice Chair

Jordan Richards

John Cox

Diane Stoner

Alternates

Draft Minutes REGULAR MEETING

24 May 2016

7 PM, Bantam Town Hall Annex, Bantam, CT

Call to order, roll call, changes to agenda.....7:01

Members in attendance: Baker, Fuessenich, Richards, Stoner.

Members absent: Austin, Cox

1. **Appointment of Alternates:** n/a
2. **Approval of Minutes:** March 23, 2016. Motion to approve by Baker seconded by Richards, unanimous approval
3. **Public Comment:** none
4. **Open Space Acquisition Project:**
 - Discussed importance of ‘county’ system to regional planning initiatives.
 - Discussed two properties (Town Farm Road and East Chestnut Hill) which are excellent candidates for acquisition. Determined that point system reflected their worth.
5. **Natural and Community Resource Inventory Project:**
 - Discussed purpose of creating inventory of natural and community resources.
 - Discussed possible synergy of efforts between *Conservation Commission* and *Garden Club*, which has been working on inventorying plant life in Litchfield.
 - Discussed the need for a *Tree Warden* in Litchfield and questioned whether or not Town has developed a *Tree Plan*. Development of *Tree Plan* is essential to protecting ecologically valuable trees from utility tree cutting.
 - Stoner will circulate an information packet on this topic and make a report at the next meeting.
 - Discussed differences between *Natural Resources* and *Community Resources* and whether or not stone building/structures will qualify as community resources. Clarified that efforts were made to inventory stone walls in town by Peter Underdonk.
 - Discussed whether civic organizations should be included on the inventory. Discussed the attractiveness of civic organizations in drawing residents to town and the abundance of civic organizations already in Litchfield.
6. **Old Business:**
 - Stoner met with Selectman, without issue, for approval to join commission.
7. **New Members:** Diane Stoner suggested Margaret Miner as new member.

The Purpose of the Conservation Commission is to develop and conserve natural resources, to conduct research into the current utilization and future possible utilization of land areas of the town, and to keep an index of all open areas, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas.

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8. **New Business:** none

9. **Correspondence:** none

10. **Review of Action Items**

- Continuation of sections for acquisition project.

11. **Adjournment**7:31

Next regularly scheduled meeting: **June 28, 2016**