



RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 12:26 pm, Nov 23, 2021

TOWN OF KENT

Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 17, 2021 @ 4:30p

Members in attendance:

Liddy Baker
Melissa Cherniske
Carol Franken
Connie Manes
Wendy Murphy
Jos Spelbos

Guests and members of the public in attendance:

Jim Norton

Call to order

A quorum being present, Commission Chair Connie Manes called the meeting to order at 6:34pm.

1. Accept/amend Agenda

The Agenda was amended to add item 6B CACIWC Conference. The Commissioners also agreed to discuss item 5C at the end of the meeting as Connie Manes and Melissa Cherniske wished to recuse from the discussion. Upon a motion by Melissa Cherniske seconded by Wendy Murphy, the Agenda as amended was unanimously accepted.

2. Accept/amend minutes:

A. June 24, 2021 Special meeting - The following amendments to the minutes were requested:

- i. In fourth paragraph, change characterization of the "Town District" to "Village District".
- ii. In the same paragraph, add "in the VR-2" to the sentence about minimum lot size.
- iii. Change attendance to reflect that Carol Franken was not present.
- iv. Change sentence about KCC's support to reflect that the Commission suggested changes to the draft regulation.

Upon a motion by Melissa Cherniske seconded by Carol Franken, the minutes of the June 24, 2021 Special Meeting as amended were unanimously approved.

B. Sept 8, 2021 Regular meeting - The following amendments to the minutes were requested:

- i. Under 6A & 6B, in the discussion of the pending conservation development application, clarify that the discussion noted that the application is in "discrepancy with the Town Character Study Areas in those POCDs".
- ii. Also under 6A & 6B, clarify that the open space proposed by the conservation subdivision application is a municipal set-aside as opposed to a privately-made conservation easement.
- iii. Again under 6A & 6B, clarify that the developer has the ability, if the conditions of the special permit become too onerous, to withdraw its application for the conservation subdivision and exercise its right to develop under other zoning regulations including the regular subdivision regulations, which could result in less dense development, but an equal or greater number of homes, possibly within the viewshed area.
- iv. At top of page 3, change to "storm precipitation management", removing the word "wastewater".
- v. In 6F, make changes to clarify that the interns being discussed worked with the Kent Land Trust, not the Commission.

Upon a motion by Melissa Cherniske seconded by Carol Franken, the minutes of the June 24, 2021 meeting as amended were unanimously approved.

C. Oct 20, 2021 Regular meeting - The following amendments to the minutes were requested:

- i. Under item 2, clarify that Boone Moore was a member of but did not serve as the Chair of the KCC.
- ii. Under 6B, clarify that the MIRA plant is an incinerator plant in Hartford that is scheduled to close.
- iii. Under 6B, clarify that First Selectman Jean Speck suggested that organic matter collected as part of

- iv. a program would be processed by a private vendor such as New Milford Farms.
- Under 6D, clarify that the trails are in the Audrey and Robert Tobin.
- v. Clarify that the meeting ended at 8:23 rather than 8:03pm.

Upon a motion by Melissa Cherniske seconded by Carol Franken, the minutes of the June 24, 2021 meeting as amended were unanimously approved.

It was agreed that Connie Manes would prepare the draft minutes for the next six months (November 2021 through April 2022) at which point the Commission will revisit the role of minute-taking.

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Liddy Baker reviewed the written report submitted in conjunction with this meeting and attached hereto. There is \$10,333.89 currently in the Kuga Fund, and an additional \$462.03 in the Arbor Fund.

4. Public comment – Jim Norton was present at the meeting but did not wish to make comment.

5. Old Business:

A. Sustainable Materials Management in Kent.

The Commission took notice of the newly published website for Cornwall's transfer station: <https://cornwallct.org/how-do-i/transfer-station/>. The Commission reaffirmed its commitment to helping the town improve its waste management and implement best practices, and will continue to invite First Selectman Jean Speck to Commission meetings for updates and dialogue regarding ways in which we may help, such as helping to arrange for appropriate signage at the Transfer Station, and helping to survey the town regarding desire for an organics program.

B. Kent Trails: A Hikers Guide

The Commission discussed needed updates to the Kent Trails Guide. John Baker and Wendy are willing to update the Guide. Liddy will contact Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy regarding updates to trails they manage. Melissa and Connie will coordinate updates needed from the Kent Land Trust. The Commission agreed to print 30 more of the current edition to meet holiday season and early-2022 demand. Liddy will arrange to have a copy of the book's cover posted at the Visitor's Center with information about where the book can be purchased.

D. Update Sustainable CT in Kent

No update. The Commission discussed the Sustainable CT Subcommittee membership.

E. Update WCCAA CT

No update. The WCCAA continues to wait for the final report from its consultant.

F. Update Kent POCD

No update. The next meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission's Subcommittee is December 2nd to discuss the POCD's proposed chapters on "Sustainability and Resiliency" and "Preserve and Conserve Important Assets". Additional public and municipal input is not requested yet; it is anticipated that the Commission will submit comments when such input is requested.

The Commission discussed past POCDs' recommendations that the Town create a municipal land acquisition fund allowing the town to direct funds to open space purchases and conservation. The Town last discussed this in the fall of 2013, when it looked at the town of Goshen's ordinance as a model. Wendy agreed to research and determine which other Connecticut towns have a municipal open space protection fund and what additional models Kent might look to if it desires to create its own ordinance. Connie agreed to find and distribute materials from the town's last reviews of this issue. The Commission will add this

These are draft minutes. Corrections may be made by the Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

41 Kent Green Boulevard, P.O. Box 678 Kent, CT 06757-0678

Phone: (860) 927-4627 □ Fax: (860) 927-1313 www.townofkentct.org

item to its agenda as “new business” for December, and invite First Selectman Jean Speck to attend the meeting and bring the issue to the Board of Selectmen at a future meeting.

G. State Legislative Session

No update. The session will begin in February 2022.

6. New Business

A. KCC meeting calendar for 2022

The Commission determined to change its regular meeting schedule to the 2nd Wednesday of each month, beginning at 7:00pm during daylight savings time months (March, April, May, June, July, September, and October) and 6:30pm during non-daylight savings time months (November, December, January, and February). No regular meeting will be held in August. Connie read out the dates and Melissa moved to approve the calendar for the next 12 months. Liddy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Connie will prepare the calendar for filing with the Town Clerk.

B. CACIWC conference report. Jos attended the CACIWC conference and gave a brief update on the keynote and workshops.

7. Correspondence. None

5C. Update Application to P&Z for Conservation Development-Subdivision in Northern Gateway.

Prior to beginning discussion on this item, Connie and Melissa recused and left the meeting. Both have spouses who sit on the Planning & Zoning Commission which is in the midst of considering the application.

The P&Z has not yet made its decision on the application for a Special Permit for a Conservation Subdivision. Wendy provided an update on citizen activities taking place outside of the purview of the P&Z.

8. Adjourn

Connie returned to the meeting.

There being no further business and upon the motion of Wendy Murphy seconded by Liddy Baker, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday December 16th @ 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted by: Connie Manes, Chair

These are draft minutes. Corrections may be made by the Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

Kent Conservation Commission
November 2021 Treasurer's Report
Budget 2021 - 2022

through Nov. 17th, 2021

	BUDGET	Previous	This Month	YTD Expenses	BALANCE
Enlarge Student Posters - Arbor Day	\$70.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Earthday at the Library - books	\$50.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Earthday at the Library - supplies	\$70.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Kent Land Trust Picnic - supplies	\$40.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Recycle Supplies	\$100.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Total Supplies 021-201	\$330.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$330.00
Chamber of Commerce maps	\$80.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Open Space Plan	\$300.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
NCRI Update	\$700.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Printing & Mapping 021-409	\$1,080.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,080.00
Rivers Alliance	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
CACIWC	\$65.00	\$0.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	
Ct Land Conservation Council	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Dues 021-450	\$165.00	\$0.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$0.00
Full Moon Walk	\$20.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Arbor Day Tree	\$250.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Library Program for Earth Day	\$300.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Amphibian study					
Transfer Station Events	\$200.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Conference	\$100.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Road Clean-up - Signs	\$50.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Road Clean-up - SKS Cake	\$150.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Road Clean-up - bags and gloves	C of C	\$0.00		\$0.00	
Public Events & Conferences 021-451	\$920.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$920.00
TOTAL	\$2,495.00	\$0.00	\$165.00	\$165.00	\$2,330.00