

Burlington Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Feb 19, 2020 - Burlington Town Hall

1. Call to Order: Chairman John Hebert at 7:00 pm. Present: Tom Finan John Hebert, Richard Miller Tom Roberge, Jackie Shadford, Melanie Wilhelm. Absent: Mitchel Kvedar
2. Review/Accept Minutes: Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept Meeting Minutes of Jan 15, 2020. (Miller/Finan)
3. Citizen Comments: None
4. Communications: None
5. Old Business:
 - a. Municipal Tax Reduction for Farms: The Board of Finance currently has proposal for review. Chairman Hebert will follow up on status.
 - b. Johnnycake Mountain Park Recreation Facility: Awaiting Town posted Minutes of JMP Committee scheduled meeting of June 25, 2019. CC has requested to be notified of said meetings. BOS Minutes of Jan 28, 2020 indicate JMP will schedule a public meeting with BSC Landscape Architect for final input. Tom Roberge will follow up with status of community gardens.
 - c. POCD: P&Z meeting on Feb 13, 2020, Glen Chalder reviewed Comments Summary and the comments from the public meeting on December 13, 2019; Priority Listing of Policies and Priority Listing of Action Steps and recommended changes for discussion. Public hearing date scheduled for April 23, 2020. Target date for adoption is May 13, 2020.
 - d. MDC/Clearbrook Rd: Motion made by Miller seconded by Wilhelm to write a letter to the BOS indicating the importance of resolving the legal ownership to the town. Motion In FAVOR: Hebert, Finan, Miller, Roberge Wilhelm; Opposed: Shadford. Wilhelm will help Miller with letter for approval by next CC meeting.
 - e. City of Bristol DEEP Grant: The State of CT has awarded the City of Bristol and Environmental Learning Centers of CT a state grant to buy land known as Pigeon Hill Property. No other monies are needed to complete the sale of 28.3 acres located in Burlington.
 - f. Sustainability: Website: Wilhelm received suggested links from other CC members. She will organize them for acceptance and submittal by next meeting.

g. Open Space Fund: Chairman Hebert will look into the status of request from CC to the BOS/BOF. Wilhelm has been tasked to find out the current balance of the sinking fund.

h. Education Programs:

Finan will finalize plans for Nassahegan State Forest public talk & walk on CT Trails Day 2020.

Shadford will continue to find a speaker for Earth Day celebration on the selection and planting of native plants and trees for the home gardener.

i. Goals:

Commission members decided to concentrate on the creation of community gardens in our town. Roberge will speak to Scott Tharau. Wilhelm will speak to Selectman Shafer regarding a potential survey of interest on town web-site.

j. Sustainability:

Shadford spoke to Selectman Salsedo about sustainable projects the CC considered undertaking. Dr Salsedo offered to help with grant proposals if resources are needed.

6. New Business:

CC Commission Attendance: Chairman Hebert sent an email to Commissioner Mitchel Kvedar requesting his intention to remain on the board resulting from his frequent absences at meetings over the last five months. Kvedar has not replied. Hebert also spoke to First Selectman Shafer about Kvedor absences and he promised to look into the situation. The CC members voted unanimously to have Chairman Hebert send a letter to BOS requesting removal of Kvedor and the need for a replacement to fill seat on CC.

7. Other:

Motion made by Miller seconded by Roberge to have Secretary Shadford be reimbursed for printing supplies used for meeting for the Board. Vote was passed unanimously.

Connecticut Land Conservation Council Annual Conference: March 21, 2020. Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. Finan plans to attend.

8. Adjourn: Motion made (Miller), seconded (Finan) and passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Shadford, Secretary