

## Burlington Conservation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 – Burlington Town Hall

1. Call to order: Chairman John Hebert at 7:00pm. Present: Tom Finan, John Hebert, Richard Miller, Tom Roberge, Melanie Wilhelm. Absent: Jackie Shadford, Mitchel Kvedar
2. Review/Accept Minutes: Motion made (Miller), seconded (Roberge) and passed unanimously to accept minutes of September 18, 2019.
3. Citizen Comment: None
4. Communications: None
5. Old Business
  - First Selectman Ted Shafer joined the meeting to comment on old business and inform the commission of developments pertinent to its operation.
  - a. Municipal Tax Reduction Program for Farms. Discussion on draft document to allow a tax deduction (CGS 12-91) for submission to BOS and other town boards and commissions. Support from organizations would be helpful. Plan to reference proposed POCD 2020 items supporting farm support.
  - b. Barnes Nature Center/City of Bristol Grant for 35.6 acres land acquisition. Selectman Shafer reported that it is being held up at the state level.
  - c. Raising Funds for Land Acquisition. Selectman Shafer commented that for the town to acquire land a town meeting is required. This is also the case for approval of a bond purchase for open space. Historically the town has had funding available and worked with organization such as the Burlington Land Trust and other conservation groups.
  - Question was raised concerning easements and rights of way for the town. Miller to report. Also noted was the deterioration of several historic and scenic barns in town
  - d. Sustainability. Selectman Shafer informed that this is a statewide project and the Conservation Commission should review issues pertinent to its work. Solar power is one of the issues that should be investigated. Also, funds may be available to some of these items.
  - e. Johnnycake Mountain Park. Selectman Shafer reported bids will go out for phase 1 and expects work to start this spring. Details of this work will be presented at a public forum
  - f. Clearbrook Road Acquisition. Selectman Shafer reported that recently the state of CT has established a liaison type position specifically for municipalities and water companies to communicate. This should aide in communication with said agency on this and other subjects.
6. New Business. None
7. Announcements. Chairman Hebert reported he and Richard Miller attended a Ct Farm Bureau Open Space under 490 presentation.  
he Commission was also made aware of a publication, Handbook for Conservation Commissions, published by CACIWC (Ct Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions) [www.caciwc.org](http://www.caciwc.org)
8. Adjourn. Motion made (Miller), second (Roberge). Passed unanimously. Adjourn 8:30

Next meeting 7pm, Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Respectfully submitted, Tom Finan