

August 18, 2022
Minutes Conservation Meeting
<https://youtu.be/QTZhGkwDKH8>

DRAFT

The meeting came to order on 7:33PM.

Members present were the following: Chairman T. Austin, Kate Rozen, Sharon deKadt, Barbara Hagen, & Diana McCarthy-Bercury

Members Not Present: Commissioner Paul Harrigan & Valerie King

1. There were no public comments made.
2. Barbara Hagan made a **motion** to approve the July 21, 2022 & August 6, 2022 minutes. Diana McCarthy-Bercury **seconded** the **motion**. **All in Favor**
3. Barbara Hagan & Commissioner Paul Harrigan met with Danielle from Westport to discuss Tree Ordinances. Barbara Hagan discussed the many Towns that have Ordinances in place such as: Ridgefield, Nyack and Greenwich. The Commission agreed to try and find different Tree Ordinances in Connecticut as well as Massachusetts. There are many questions to preparing this Ordinance such as: who enforces the Ordinance, which department regulates aesthetics of the land, and are permits required for the tree removal. (during this part of the meeting Board Liaison David Lober was on the phone). Chairman Tim Austin stated he would like to see the Ordinance done by November 2022.
4. The status for 356 Rimmon Road is they are submitting 3 building lots. A total of 21 acres but 8.2 acres of Open Space (27.3% of Open Space). Chairman Tim Austin asked for an additional corridor of open space to connect the bordering town property to the bordering WLT property. The Developer does the deed for the property to the TPZ. If easements are used to grant Open Space, they need to be monitored, maintained, and enforced.
5. Valerie King sent in her update on 124 Seymour Road. It appears not much has changed. Homeowner is talking to Land Trust on Monday, August 22, 2022. Chairman Tim Austin made the First Selectwoman and Finance aware due to the value of the property. A question was raised as to whether the Open Space granted to the Town is protected in perpetuity. If there is

enough money in the Open Space account, then the monies get approved by the Board of Selectman. If there is no money, then it would be a lengthy process through Town Meetings. The one solution would be to find someone willing to come in and acquire the property. Barbara Hagan may have found a person who is interested in preserving and purchasing the land.

6. The Greenway Walks have been successful. Discussion was made if they can combine more than one area and walk together. This was suggested due to some being shorter/longer than the others. Diana McCarthy-Bercury will send an email when to schedule the next walk.
7. Tony Genovese apologized that he was unable to attend this meeting but will be at the next meeting on September 15, 2022.
8. Greenway Expansion Work Session began at 08:50PM
9. Diana McCarthy-Bercury **motioned** to adjourn the meeting and Kate Rozen **seconded. All in Favor.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

The next meeting is Thursday, September 15, 2022 at 07:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Trzaski
Clerk for the Conservation Commission