



**COMMISSION ON THE USE OF PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTIES  
(CUPOP)  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, March 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm via Webex**

**YouTube Meeting Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EzrIKTQWPc>

**Present:**

**CUPOP Members:** Nicole Donzello-Chair, Patti McKeon-Secretary, Leslie Lyons, Lor Ferrante Fernandes,

**Liaisons:** Deputy First Selectman Sheila McCreven (arrived 5:37)  
Conservation Commission Chair Tim Austin (arrived 5:42)

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm.
2. **February Minutes:** Lor Ferrante Fernandes motioned to approve the minutes; Leslie Lyons seconded. Motion passed unanimously.  
**Vote: Yes** - Nicole Donzello, Leslie Lyons, Patti McKeon, Lor Ferrante Fernandes
3. **CUPOP Chairman Report:** Chair Nicole Donzello reported on the topics below.

**Member Resignations** - Nancy Polk and Todd Sasso resigned from CUPOP. The plan for appointing other members to CUPOP will be discussed with First Selectman Heller.

**Housing Opportunity Study Committee** - An in-person meeting will be held this Wednesday (3/30) at the JCC, 7 pm. The latest survey will be discussed along with other pertinent information.

**In-Person Meetings** - In-person meetings will resume after April 30. The April meeting will be held via Webex and the May CUPOP meeting will be held in-person. The question was raised as to whether hybrid meetings are possible. Follow-up will take place.

**Freedom of Information (FOI)** - Topics to be included for the agenda are welcomed and may be emailed in advance of the agenda being created. Nicole noted that she cannot respond with discussion to any emails as it would be a FOI violation.

**CUPOP Projects** - The thought to have specific projects unique to CUPOP was mentioned. Discussion ensued.

4. **Board of Selectmen (BOS) Updates:** Deputy First Selectman Sheila McCreven reported on the items below.

A virtual Ordinance Committee Meeting will take place on Thursday, March 31. Two topics for discussion include the Littering Ordinance (from CUPOP) and secondly, a review of Town Ordinances especially the ordinances that established Boards & Commissions with an eye to determine overlap.

It was noted that a Strategic Planning Subcommittee has been developed to look at ways to streamline, consolidate, and share services throughout the Town in order to have a sustainable budget.

5. **Conservation Committee Updates:** Chair Tim Austin reported on the items below.

Merritt Avenue Subdivision Opportunity Project Update - It was noted IWA is hiring an expert to determine the impact that development will have on the wetlands that exist in the area. A most likely Conservation Commission request to TPZ is for a strip of land that runs along the West River. If the project moves forward, the land would be deeded to the Town and would become publicly owned property. There is a possibility for this strip on land to be turned into a public park.

Oak Hill Lane Project Update - The project is at the point where the path from Oak Hill Lane to the Fitzgerald property will be laid on solely Town-owned property (redirected from private property). Trail relocation will take place Sunday, March 27 between 1-3 pm. Volunteers are welcome to participate.

The County Club of Woodbridge-Conservation Easement Proposal that had been presented to the Board of Selectmen by The Woodbridge Park Association and The Woodbridge Land Trust was presented to the Conservation Commission. It was noted that the proposal presentation was extensive.

6. **Dog Park:** Leslie Lyons reported that the Dog Park Coop received a donation of \$1000 raised from the recent Woodbridge Community Event. The funds will be used to purchase trees to benefit the dog park. Potholes in the parking lot area were filled by the Department of Public Works crew.
7. **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee Update:** Lor Ferrante Fernandes reported that the Committee is working on another Woodbridge Like Me Day. A date has not been set.
8. **American Rescue Plan Act - Grove Update:** Patti McKeon mentioned that she had done some initial work on the project that the Town is using as a tool. Once decisions are made and funds are in place, the Town will share plans with the public. Until that time, Patti noted that she would not have anything new to report.
9. **Next Meetings:** Monday, April 25, 2022
10. Meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted: *Toni Belenski*