



**COMMISSION ON THE USE OF PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTIES
(CUPOP)**

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 23, 2022 at 5:30 pm via Webex

YouTube Meeting Video: <https://youtu.be/OfQeNleyCLU>

Present:

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

Liaisons: Deputy First Selectman Sheila McCreven

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:38 pm.
2. **April Minutes:** Patti McKeon motioned to approve the minutes;
Lor Ferrante Fernandes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
Vote: Yes - Nicole Donzello, Leslie Lyons, Patti McKeon, Lor Ferrante Fernandes
3. **Board of Selectmen (BOS) Updates:** Deputy First Selectman Sheila McCreven reported on three items from the May 11 Board of Selectmen (BOS) Meeting that have relevance to CUPOP.
 - On hold is a proposal for an archeological dig to take place near Bladen's River. It was noted that a prior dig took place behind the Thomas Darling House, and interesting relics had been found.
 - A Special BOS Meeting will be held Wednesday, May 25 to review the plan submitted by the Housing Opportunity Study Committee. The meeting will be virtual. Public comments will be accepted via email in advance of the meeting, or at the virtual meeting. While the deadline to submit the plan to the State is June 1, the plan may be updated without restriction.
 - The BOS Strategic Plan Sub Committee presented additional details on the strategic plan to the Board of Selectmen. A finalized draft is expected for the June BOS Meeting.

It was also noted that the Annual Town budget was approved as presented.

4. CUPOP Chair Nicole Donzello reported on the items below

While the **Housing Opportunity Study Committee** update was summarized in Sheila McCreven's report, Nicole encouraged CUPOP members to read the report that is on the Town's website as well as listen to or attend the virtual May 25 BOS Meeting.

The **Woodbridge Community Center Building Committee** was formed on May 11 to transform the Old Firehouse into a Community Center. The **Center Building Renovation Committee** was recently created to renovate areas of the Center Building at 4 Meetinghouse Lane. Committee chairs will be invited to a future CUPOP meeting to share information about their committee's project.

In-person meetings were discussed. It was decided to vote only on the June CUPOP meeting at this time.

Patti McKeon motioned to meet remotely for the June meeting; Leslie Lyons seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Vote: Yes - Nicole Donzello, Leslie Lyons, Patti McKeon, Lor Ferrante Fernandes

Meeting schedule adjustments were discussed for the July, August, & December Meetings, taking into account possible August projects.

Lor Ferrante Fernandes motioned for CUPOP not to meet in the months of July and December; Patti McKeon seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Vote: Yes - Nicole Donzello, Leslie Lyons, Patti McKeon, Lor Ferrante Fernandes

5. **CUPOP Projects:** In follow up to identifying potential CUPOP projects discussed at the May meeting, Nicole Donzello reported that she hopes to finalize the potential project list for the June meeting. Outstanding questions yet need to be addressed.

Nicole noted that it is CUPOP's responsibility to maintain the list of publicly owned properties. The current 2014 list with property categorization and conservation restrictions is a part of POCD (Appendix A). Updating the 2014 list is one project that CUPOP can take on right away. Nicole plans to request the necessary information so CUPOP may begin this process.

While a comprehensive list will be put together, a few CUPOP projects highlighted during discussion include:

- Spearheading Littering Public Awareness and holding more frequent rid litter events.
- Partnering with the Town's Trail Master to help remove Japanese Barberry from trails.
- Reviewing the 2015 Sustainability Standards.

6. **Dog Park Update:** Leslie Lyons reported that dog park water hydrant was installed, and potable water is expected to be available for use this week by dog park members. The Dog Park Cooperative will graciously extend use of the hydrant for drinking water to other Fitzgerald property users. June is membership month for donations to the dog park.
7. **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Update:** Lor Ferrante Fernandes reported that the DEI created an Experiencing Woodbridge survey that is on the DEI page of the Town's website and encouraged all to complete the survey (by June 10).

8. **Next Meetings:** Monday, June 27, 2022
9. New Items for Next Agenda: Potential CUPOP Project /Action Item List; Next steps for projects identified in discussion item #5 above.
10. Meeting was adjourned at 6:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted: *Toni Belenski*