



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

Meeting Agenda

Monday, May 24, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Webex

Meeting Video: <https://youtu.be/xtC4QRn2srk>

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

Conservation Commission: Jason Morrill, Chair and Tim Austin, Commission Member

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm.

2. **March & April Minutes:**

Leslie Lyons motioned to approve the March minutes;

Marty Halprin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Patti McKeon motioned to approve the April minutes;

Leslie Lyons seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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

3. **Conservation Commission Updates** were presented by Chair Jason Morrill and
Commission Member Tim Austin. Three items were addressed.

Property Use Designations & Protection Types – The draft Property Use Designations
& Protection Types document and Property Evaluation Tool were presented in detail.
Both documents were authored and designed by the Conservation Commission to be
used in tandem by town entities as a “common language” classification system for all
open space (town owned or not) as well as property acquisition/preservation
considerations. The documents are in response to a goal set for the Conservation
Commission in the 2018 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). Discussion
ensued following the presentation, and it was noted that CUPOP members may review
the documents at greater length and offer feedback.

Trail Maintenance – It was reported that recent trail maintenance that took place cleared invasive plants from the Fitzgerald Trail and the Racebrook Estate, making paths easier to pass.

Conservation Commission Chair – Jason Morrill reported that he will be stepping down from his position as chair. He was thanked by CUPOP members for his many years of leadership and service in his role as Chair.

4. **CUPOP Chairman Report** – Chair Lor Ferrante Fernandes reported on items below.

COVID Update: Connecticut's success with vaccinations was noted along with the need for residents to continue to practice safety protocols.

Diversity & Inclusion Update – The Committee continues to work on One Town One Book as part of its diversity program. Book/film selection is underway.

Housing Opportunity Study Committee – The Committee will hold its first meeting this week. Nicole Donzello sits of this Committee and she will provide meeting highlights at the June CUPOP meeting.

Sustainability – How to move forward with sustainability is being addressed with the possibility of commissions joining together.

Former Country Club of Woodbridge Property – Discussion ensued regarding a petition that is circulating about specific recommended use of this property.

5. **Tick Workshop** – Marty Halprin reported that the May Tick Workshop presented by State Chief Entomologist Kirby Stafford, III, Phd was an overwhelming success. Discussion took place for CUPOP to share the presentation handout on social media upon approval from Dr. Stafford.
6. **Dog Park** – Leslie Lyons reported based on information received from Bonnie Blake of the Woodbridge Dog Park. Overall, Dog Park users continue to work together to maintain a safe clean area. It is hoped that events involving the dog part begin to take place. Donated trees and benches are within the dog park. The Woodbridge Dog Park continues to accept donations; donations are especially welcome from users of the dog park.
7. **June Meeting:** June 28, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Items to be included at the June meeting:
- Property Use Designations & Protection Types and Evaluation Tool Review
 - Housing Opportunity Study Committee Update
8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted, *Toni Belenski*