



The Woodbridge Conservation Commission

Special Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2021- 7:00PM

The meeting was called to order. In attendance were Jason Morrill, Tim Austin, Sharon de Kadt and Kate Rozen.

Public comments

There were no public comments submitted for this meeting.

Review and approve minutes of the April 15, 2021 special meeting

Jason Morrill made a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting and it was seconded by Tim Austin. The motion was approved.

Review and approve minutes of the May 20, 2021 special meeting

Jason Morrill made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting and it was seconded by Sharon de Kadt. The motion was approved.

Discuss possible role with the Housing Opportunity Study Committee

The group has had two meetings. They were looking for feedback on our use designation tool. They will be reviewing parcels. There will be parcels that overlap with ones this commission has reviewed.

Discuss DEEP OSWA "Open Space and Watershed acquisition grant "

The WCC has come close in the past to applying for the grant but the valuation of the property has to be in line with realistic values. The grant process closes 30 September 2021. Awards are announced in early January. There are other parcels in town that are of interest. It is a matching grant. The Conservation Commission would make a recommendation, the board of selectmen would approve, and the town would apply. Multiple organizations can be on the same grant application. The Litchfield turnpike would be an ideal parcel. As a group, the WCC has decided to focus on greenway extensions for this year.

Update on draft Use Designations of Open Space

Tim and Jason met with CUPOP to share our draft use designations document with them. There was not a lot of feedback. It will be presented to town counsel for review. A motion to adopt the Property use Designations and Protection Types - Jason Morrill, seconded by Tim Austin. Discussion - We can make modifications and edits afterwards as needed. The motion passed.

Update on revised draft Property Profile tool

The group reviewed the draft Property Profile tool. Tim Austin has met with the Land Trust to discuss their tool and the WCC tool has been formed with their feedback in mind. They are not doing the same level of research. The Land Trust has been willing to share information to keep a database of properties.

Attribute	Short Name	Scoring Guide	Score	Scoring Narrative/Assumptions
No = 0 Raw Score for all questions				
A - Contains inland wetlands / watercourses:	Wetland	YES: >50% Wetland Cover = 9; 25-49% = 6; <25% = 3	6	
2 - Aquifer Protection	Aquifer	YES = 9	9	
B - Farming active or possible:	Farming	YES = 9	0	
C - Woodland Preservation:	Woodland	YES = 9	9	
D - Of a size to be useful for recreational activities:	Size	YES: >=5 Acres = 9; <5 Acres = 6	0	
E - Adds acreage to existing preserved open space:	Expansion	YES = 9	9	
F - Fills hole in Greenway/Wildlife corridor:	Greenway	YES = 9	9	
G - Contains historic sites, structures, cultural artifacts etc:	Historic	YES = 9	0	
H - Preserves/enhances scenic aesthetics of a section of town:	Scenic	YES: >5 Acres = 9; 3-5 Acres = 6; <3 Acres = 3	3	
I - Protects endangered animal or plant habitat:	Habitat	YES = 9	0	
J - Is under development pressure:	Develop	YES = 9	0	
Is identified by a town entity as desirable:	Town Need	YES = 9	0	Is this Attribute Needed?????
May support future multi-family / affordable housing:	Housing	YES = 9	0	
People of the town value this parcel as open space:	Popular	YES = 9	9	
Sellable/tradeable parcel to achieve other goals:	Tradeable	YES = 9	0	
COMMENTARY ON PARCEL:				

The commentary will be important in the evaluation tool. A motion to adopt the tool and present it to the BOS for their approval was made by Tim Austin and seconded by Jason Morrill. The vote passed.

Discuss transition and Commission changes

In the next BOS meeting the open positions on the WCC will be filled and we will have new members. The BOS will also assign a liaison in July. Jason Morrill will remain a resource to the commission. The agenda, zoom link, and priorities will need to be set.

Materials should be sent to townclerk@woodbridgect.org

Chairman's report

Jason Morrill led the trail walk on June 6, 2021 at Massaro. People came from all over the state. They were given a tour of the trail focused on reclaiming habitat. It was a good day with excellent weather. This was a good partnership.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

CC to Woodbridge Town Clerk: townclerk@woodbridgect.org