



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

Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 28, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Webex

Meeting Video:

<https://woodbridgect.webex.com/woodbridgect/lsr.php?RCID=962e0f0b506b3018d6bb59f3efe93dd0>

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm.
2. **May Minutes:** Patti McKeon motioned to approve the May minutes; Leslie Lyons seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
Vote: Yes - Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Leslie Lyons, Patti McKeon, Nicole Donzello
3. **Property Use Designations & Protection Types:** CUPOP members were asked by the Chair if they had any feedback or changes relating to the Conservation Commission's Draft Property Use Designations & Protection Types Document and Property Evaluation Tool. No necessary changes were noted.

A motion was made for CUPOP to support the draft document and tool authored by the Conservation Commission; however, upon discussion the motion was withdrawn. It was decided to wait until the Conservation Commission presents the document and tool to the Housing Opportunity Study Committee.

4. **Public Comment:** No public comment.
5. **CUPOP Chairman Report:** Chair Lor Ferrante Fernandes reported on the following items.:
 - **Diversity & Inclusion Update** - A diversity and inclusion event is scheduled for the first Saturday in October. Planning for a variety of activities along with food vendors is underway.
 - **Commission Members** - With Marty Halprin's CUPOP term ending, his years of serving as a CUPOP member was acknowledged and a big thank you was extended for his many contributions to the Commission and town residents.

- **BOS Liaison** - Sheila McCreven has been appointed as the CUPOP BOS liaison.

6. **Housing Opportunity Study Committee Update:** As a Committee member Nicole Donzello noted the importance of understanding the definition of affordable housing and mentioned a housing plan could include ownership and rentals. She further reported:
 - As a first step, there will be a resident survey to assess the needs and wants of town residents regarding housing diversification within Woodbridge.
 - Sample Housing Plans from several Connecticut towns have been posted on the Town website for residents to review. (See the Housing Opportunity Study Committee page.)
 - July 2022 is the mandated deadline for a completed housing plan.
7. **Tick Update:** Topic to be addressed at a future meeting.
8. **Trail Maintenance Update:** Patti McKeon noted that trail maintenance is an ongoing project that Trail Master Andy Danzig successfully manages with volunteers. Patti noted that she maintains contact with the local boy scout troops as a source for volunteers.
9. **Dog Park:** Based on information distributed by Bonnie Blake earlier this month Nicole reported:
 - The extreme heat and lack of rain has created trees in the dog park to be stressed. As there is not a water source in the dog park, park regulars have been asked to bring jugs of water to give the trees a drink.
 - Mask mandate has been lifted in the dog park, but people may continue to wear them.
 - The dog park budget remains in good shape with donations still coming in even though the ability to hold in-person fund raising has not been possible.
 - More volunteers are needed as the dog park is run solely by volunteers.
 - June is dog park membership month; \$25 membership fees go toward the general maintenance of the dog park.
 - A goal is to work closely with other town organization to bring the community together.
10. **July 26 & August 23 Meetings:** Chair Lor Ferrante Fernandez motioned to cancel the July and August CUPOP meetings and to start meetings again in September; Nicole Donzello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
Vote: Yes - Lor Ferrante Fernandes, Leslie Lyons, Patti McKeon, Nicole Donzello
11. Meeting was adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectively submitted: *Toni Belenski*