

**CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

1. Call to Order and Attendance – 7:03 P.M.

Members present: Matt Macunas, Ted Newton, Shawn Daly, Emilee Scott, Roni Rodman

2. Old Business

Approval of minutes from March 29 – motioned by Newton, seconded by Daly  
Approval of minutes from February 22 – motioned by Macunas, seconded by Daly

3. New Business

- **Presentation from West Hartford students and residents regarding a Climate Emergency Resolution proposal**

The Commission was joined by resident Henry Miller and by local students Corina Chang, Arlo Tucker, Evan Piccioli, and Zoe Weissman. The group summarized their experiences in town and their enjoyment of its environmental qualities. They proceeded into their rationale for advancing a Climate Emergency Resolution proposal, and then described the proposal itself whose current draft contemplates 1) Climate Commission formation with voting and youth representation; 2) upward political pressure; 3) support of the Clean Energy Commission's energy plan targeting 100% clean energy by 2050; and 4) an endorsement of national carbon pricing policy. The group asked the Commission for its feedback, and plans to put the draft under community and economic development review, and then the same with Town Council. The Commission agreed to hold a June meeting that will include review of the resolution draft and/or determination on formal feedback.

- **UConn property updates**

Mr. Daly summarized concerns from residents in the neighborhood of the former UConn property now owned by Ideanomics, inquiring as to the property's role in facilitating rodent activity given its unmaintained characteristic. Mr. Macunas read recent feedback received from Town Manager Hart on the matter, including his communications with Ideanomics and the Town's and Health District's recourse under the property maintenance code. The Commission agreed to continue placing attention on this issue

on behalf of area residents, and to make a second inquiry to the Town on 1) whether the health district could perform another investigation; 2) whether the property's pond might harbor rodent food sources; and 3) whether the Commission could gain firsthand knowledge of property plans once a new owner is identified.

#### 4. Adjournment

Adjourned 8:03 P.M.