



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

Tel. 860-870-3120 Town Planner's Office Fax. 860-870-3122

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022, 7:00 PM

IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT
REMOTE ATTENDANCE: VIA ZOOM MEETING, INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BELOW

I. CALL TO ORDER:

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (On Non-Agenda Items):

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Plan of Conservation & Development, Chapter 4 - Conservation Strategies, Natural Resource Preservation:
 - a. Review of Plan of Conservation for potential updates to Chapter 2 – Protected Land Inventory and Table 1.
 - b. Review & Update List of Priority Parcels for Farmland and Open Space.
2. Report - Working Farmland Preservation Program:
3. Report - Open Space Preservation Program:

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. FY 21-22 Budget & Expenditure Update & FY 22-23 Revised Budget Proposal.
2. Approval of the March 8, 2022 regular meeting minutes.
3. Correspondence:
 - a. Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee – Monthly agenda/minutes.
 - b. Northern CT Land Trust Landmark newsletter March 2022

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Instructions to attend remotely via Zoom Meeting listed below. The agenda is posted on the Town's webpage (www.ellington-ct.gov) under Agenda & Minutes, Conservation Commission.

Join Zoom Meeting via link:

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86198416359>

Meeting ID: 861 9841 6359

Passcode: 387131

Join Zoom Meeting by phone:

1-646-558-8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 861 9841 6359

Passcode: 387131

COMMISSIONERS: TO ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING QUORUMS REQUIRED TO CONDUCT MEETINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND A SCHEDULED MEETING.

INVENTORY OF OPEN SPACE, FARMLAND, AND RECREATIONAL ASSETS

(NOT INCLUDING GOLF COURSES AND CONSERVATION EASEMENTS)

DESCRIPTION	OWNER	AREA (ac.)
Pinney and Windermere (Including Pinney Street Fields)	Town	67.71
Carriage Hill Open Space	Town	18.51
Crystal Ridge Estates Open Space	Town	47.89
Crystal View	Town	35.3
Ellington Highlands Open Space	Town	29.5
Rising Acres II Open Space	Town	8.3
Tripp Road Open Space	Town	8
Mosley Plains Open Space	Town	4.62
High Ridge Open Space	Town	3.46
Hatheway Road	Town	3.18
Sunset Hill - Town Access	Town	1.6
Batz Properties	Town	44.86
Kimball Forest	Town	55.61
Meadow Brook Estates Open Space	Town	15.26
Metcalf Nature Preserve	Town	15.63
Stagecoach Crossing Open Space	Town	6.64
"T" Properties	Town	73.35
Arbor Park	Town	3.3
Brookside Park	Town	41.42
Sandy Beach	Town	7.23
Crystal Lake Memorial Park	Town	0.24
Porter Road Highlands	Town	3.16
Other Town Unimproved Open Lands	Town	19.18
Properties Taken In Lieu of Taxes	Town	8.55
Subtotal		522.50
Bellante (Sandy Beach Road)	Land Trust	35.76
Wraight (Webster Road)	Land Trust	116.43
Pearl	Land Trust	11.78
Sunset Hill	Land Trust	14
Swann Farm	Land Trust	56.21
Joy Property	Land Trust	6.87
Shenipsit Woods	Land Trust	29.73
Ernie Boothroyd Preserve	Land Trust	58
Bird Sanctuary	Audubon	7.6
Subtotal		336.38
Way Farm	PDR	68.6
Culbro Farm	PDR	171.09
Burke Farm	PDR	119
Pinney Farm	PDR	5
Myers Farm*	PDR/Land Trust	70.59
Dzen Farm	PDR	22.25
Silverhurst/Foster Farm	PDR	97.32
Silverhurst/Foster/Thrall Farm	PDR	20.57
Charter Farm	PDR	43.39
Pease Farm	PDR	20.79
McKnight Farm	PDR	124.429
Bahler Farm	PDR	125.785
Oakridge Dairy Farm (Jobs Hill Road)	PDR	51.82
Wraight Farm	PDR/CFT	36.62
Subtotal		977.25
Shenipsit State Forest	State	1396.92
Nye Holman State Forest	State	361.21
Bradway Reservoir	State	87.93
Boat Launch, Crystal Lake	State	4.69
Subtotal		1850.75
Crystal Lake		175.51
Shenipsit Lake		170.91
Subtotal		346.42
TOTAL =		4033.30

*Included in open space totals

LAND TRUST PARCELS (REVISED 4/6/2022)

ID	Site Address	Owner Name	Owner Address	Owner City	Owner State	Owner Zip	Acerage	Site Name	Comments
158 002 0000	GREEN RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	70.59	Myers Farm	
153 004 0000	54 TOLLAND TPKE	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	58	Boothroyd	
160 044 0000	7 DEBORAH DR	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	1.93	Joy	
160 045 0000	5 DEBORAH DR	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	2.03	Joy	
160 046 0000	3 DEBORAH DR	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	1.27	Joy	
160 047 0000	1 DEBORAH DR	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	0.65	Joy	
160 048 0000	22 LANZ LN	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	0.99	Joy	
172 008 0001	10 SANDY BEACH RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	35.76	Bellante	
165 001 0000	WEBSTER RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	116.43	Wraight	
143 007 0000	PORTER RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	14	Sunset	
178 014 0000	REEVES RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	56.21	Swann	
145 004 0000	PORTER RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	29.73	Shenipsit	
145 001 0000	PORTER RD	CONNECTICUT LAND TRUST INC	PO BOX 324	SOMERS	CT	06071	11.78	Pearl	
001 001 0000	WAPPING WOOD RD	SOUTH WINDSOR LAND TRUST	PO BOX 415 EAST	WINDSOR HILL	CT	06028	6.67	Wapping Wood Sanctuary	1974-Hartford Audubon; 2013 SWLT
001 009 0000	WAPPING WOOD RD	SOUTH WINDSOR LAND TRUST	PO BOX 415 EAST	WINDSOR HILL	CT	06028	0.93	Wapping Wood Sanctuary	1978 Wisneski; 2017 SWLT
TOTAL							406.97		

APN	Address	AREA (ac.)
Pinney and Windermere		
017-023-0000	Nutmeg Drive	35.49
017-020-0000	59 Pinney Street	20.13
017-021-0000	Pinney Street	8.15
026-021-0000	Windermere Avenue	3.94
		67.71
Carriage Hill Open Space		
021-031-0005	Shenipsit Street	~
		18.51
Crystal Ridge Estates Open		
129-088-0103	Crystal Ridge Drive	~
		47.89
Crystal View		
127-014-0000	24 Grassy Hill Road	~
		35.3
Ellington Highlands Open		
037-005-0082	Bronisz Drive	~
		29.5
Rising Acres II Open Space		
165-004-0015	Edgewood Road	~
		8.3
Tripp Road Open Space		
023-001-0009	Tripp Road	~
		8
Mosley Plains Open Space		
089-066-0000	Wells Road	~
		4.62
High Ridge Open Space		
075-033-0000	Hare Road	~
		3.46
Hatheway Road - Brookside		
089-001-0000	Hatheway Road	~
		3.18
Sunset Hill - Town Access		

DRAFT

123-003-0005	Porter Road	~
		<u><u>1.6</u></u>

Batz Properties

030-005-0000	97 Shenipsit Street	~
		<u><u>44.86</u></u>

Kimball Forest

084-003-0000	Crystal Lake Road	23.18
084-013-0000	Crystal Lake Road	17.96
085-006-0000	Pinnacle Road	6.2
085-005-0000	Crystal Lake Road	4.97
075-018-0003	Pinnacle Road	3.3
		<u><u>55.61</u></u>

Meadow Brook Estates

104-046-0000	Bridge Street	10.39
104-013-0000	Bridge Street	4.87
		<u><u>15.26</u></u>

Metcalf Nature Preserve

140-036-0000	Jobs Hill Road	15.46
140-035-0000	Cedarwood Drive	0.17
		<u><u>15.63</u></u>

Stagecoach Crossing Open

052-002-0038	Middle Road	5.15
052-002-0039	Ryan Drive	1.49
		<u><u>6.64</u></u>

"T" Properties

053-016-0002	242 Pinney Street	34.96
053-016-0000	Middle Road	22.33
053-016-0003	Frog Hollow Road	16.06
		<u><u>73.35</u></u>

Arbor Park

064-017-0000	39 Main Street	~
		<u><u>3.3</u></u>

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Brookside Park

079-004-0000 45 Sadds Mill Road ~

41.42

Sandy Beach

129-084-0000 Sandy Beach Road ~

7.23

Crystal Lake Memorial Park

128-017-0000 West Shore Road ~

0.24

Porter Road Highlands

143-009-0000 Porter Road ~

3.16

Other Town Unimproved

129-088-0104 Crystal Ridge Drive 4.52

131-001-0007 39 Ladd Road 2.15

131-001-0000 Ladd Road 2.11

010-019-0000 Pinney Street 1.87

014-010-0000 Jonathan Drive 1.78

041-002-0000 Middle Road 1.34

109-014-0000 Crystal Lake Road 1

136-005-0000 Sadds Mill Road 0.7

110-017-0000 Crystal Lake Road 0.5

009-063-0000 Windsorville Road 0.49

100-010-0001 Sadds Mill Road 0.48

026-017-0000 138 Windermere Ave 0.44

129-106-0000 85 White Road 0.28

129-105-0000 87 White Road 0.26

129-012-0000 White Road 0.23

114-005-0000 Ladd Road 0.23

129-054-0000 224 Sandy Beach
Road 0.21

080-060-0001 Pioneer Drive 0.17

128-031-0000 South Road 0.12

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112-029-0000	Lakeview Avenue	0.11
148-085-0000	70 West Shore Road	0.1
075-012-0000	4 Laurel Road	0.09

19.18**Properties Taken In Lieu of**

168-079-0000	17 Wendell Road	2.09
131-010-0000	35 Buff Cap Road	2.07
168-025-0000	Wendell Road	1.84
021-027-0000	Mountain Street	1.02
039-020-0000	165 Mountain Street	0.69
168-120-0000	121 West Shore Road	0.19
168-038-0000	Pine Street	0.13
168-081-0000	Wendell Road	0.12
129-017-0000	Reds Street	0.1
129-020-0000	24 Green Street	0.1
128-031-0001	11 MacMahon Street	0.08
168-122-0000	115 West Shore Road	0.06
169-014-0000	137 West Shore Road	0.03
169-018-0000	West Shore Road	0.03

8.55**TOTAL****522.50**

GREEN ROAD PROPERTIES - GENERALLY NORTH OF MUDDY BROOK ROAD

ID	Site Address	Owner Name	Owner Address	Owner City	Owner State	Owner Zip	W/E OF RD	AREA	GEN'L COMMENTS	Last Sale Date
138 008 0000	GREEN RD	MCKNIGHT JEFF T	141 MUDDY BROOK RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	13.88	A	7/20/2009
158 004 0000	GREEN RD	MCKNIGHT JEFF T	141 MUDDY BROOK RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	37.47	V/F	7/20/2009
158 003 0000	GREEN RD	BRADY SCOTT J + LUCYNA A	12 EAST CIDER MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	2.77	V/F	1/6/2021
138 006 0000	GREEN RD	SIBLEY JUDITH ANN	3513 FLOYD ST	PORTSMOUTH	VA	237071334	E	4.82	V/F/A	3/28/1967
138 007 0000	GREEN RD	SIBLEY JUDITH ANN	3513 FLOYD ST	PORTSMOUTH	VA	237071334	E	5.45	V/F	1/30/1991
159 002 0000	GREEN RD	BRADY SCOTT J + LUCYNA A	12 EAST CIDER MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	12.7	V/F	12/23/2020
139 008 0000	GREEN RD	BAHLER SETH + TAYLOR	17 BIRCH VIEW DR	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	27.72	V/F	11/8/2021
179 004 0000	GREEN RD	MACVARISH BARBARA F 1/6 +JAMES B +ROBERT	260 CRYSTAL LAKE RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	27.85	V/F	6/24/2003
179 006 0000	237 GREEN RD	DERHAM JOHN+ BISSELL SALLY+ LAWRENCE TRS	PO BOX 808	FARMINGTON	CT	06032	E	18.7	V/F	10/16/2019
159 001 0000	GREEN RD	DERHAM JOHN+ BISSELL SALLY+ LAWRENCE TRS	PO BOX 808	FARMINGTON	CT	06032	E	6.61	V/F	10/16/2019
138 009 0000	GREEN RD	MCKNIGHT JEFF T + JOHN E +	141 MUDDY BROOK RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	21.85	V/F	7/20/2009
118 002 0000	GREEN RD	FARM HOLDINGS LLC	31 FROG HOLLOW RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	E	15.5	V/F/A	8/20/2015
158 005 0000	177 GREEN RD	ARNONE THOMAS	5 CARTIER RD	ENFIELD	CT	06082	E	3.12		11/12/1986
179 002 0000	340 JOBS HILL RD	JP DIGS IT LLC	352 BILLINGS RD	SOMERS	CT	6071	E	4.02		9/24/2018
179 003 0000	338 JOBS HILL RD	EMERALD CITY RENTALS	PO BOX 91199	SPRINGFIELD	MA	1139	E	5.38	C BUS	4/7/2016
							TOTAL	207.84		
158 001 0000	GREEN RD	GALE ANDREW J + GREGORY J + PHILIP A	84 SADDs MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	23.7	V/F/U	5/29/2014
118 001 0000	90 GREEN RD	GALE ANDREW J + GREGORY J + PHILIP A	84 SADDs MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	53.76	V/F/A/U	5/29/2014
138 001 0000	GREEN RD	GALE ANDREW J + GREGORY J + PHILIP A	84 SADDs MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	62.7	V/F/A LAND LOCKED	5/29/2014
179 001 0000	GREEN RD	GRANT GEORGE M + LESLIE J GREEN ROAD AERO SOCIETY LLC	87 PIONEER HEIGHTS	SOMERS	CT	06071	W	31.5	V/F/U	1/3/2006
138 002 0000	GREEN RD		PO BOX 443	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	39.88	REMOTE PLANES A/U	8/3/2005
138 004 0000	GREEN RD	GALE ANDREW + PHILIP A	90 SADDs MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	8.44	V/F/U	8/3/2012
101 004 0000	GREEN RD	DECARLI INC	152 SADDs MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	4.71	V/A	6/14/2006
138 003 0000	162 GREEN RD	GALE ANDREW J + GREGORY J + PHILIP A	84 SADDs MILL RD	ELLINGTON	CT	06029	W	13.87	V/A/U	5/29/2014
							TOTAL	238.56		

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Town Planner Expenditure

Fiscal Year: 2021 - 2022

From Date: 7/1/2021

To Date: 4/7/2022

Fiscal Year: 2021 - 2022												
Account Number		Description			YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Bal	%Bud			
000.02.00270.10.60103		Part Time—Conservation Commission—			\$390.00	\$910.00	\$0.00	\$910.00	70.00%			
Transaction Detail (Maximum)												
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo	Vendor	Journal	Amount	
1/21/2022	280		0	0	0	0	0	0 Conservation Comm-Part Time		Adjusting	\$130.00	
2/18/2022	312		0	0	0	0	0	0 Conservation Comm-Part Time		Adjusting	\$130.00	
3/18/2022	344		0	0	0	0	0	0 Conservation Comm-Part Time		Adjusting	\$130.00	
Detail Total:											\$390.00	
000.02.00270.20.60221		Advertising Printing—Conservation Commission—			\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00		\$400.00	100.00%
000.02.00270.20.60222		Dues & Subscriptions—Conservation Commission—			\$325.00	\$0.00	\$325.00	\$0.00	\$325.00		\$325.00	100.00%
000.02.00270.20.60223		Travel—Conservation Commission—			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00%
000.02.00270.20.60234		Professional Development—Conservation Commission			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	0.00%
000.02.00270.20.60250		Contracted Services—Conservation			\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	100.00%

Transaction Detail (Maximum)											Commission--			
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo	Vendor	Journal	Amount			
7/30/2021	11	600187	0	KFEL001227	069-001	0	1003	0 INV. KFEL0001227069-001	Kelly-Fradet	Accounts Payable	\$266.78			
12/8/2021	164	0	0	KFEL001227	069-001	0	1003	0 Contracted Services---Conservation Commission--	Kelly-Fradet	Accounts Payable	(\$266.78)			
Detail Total:											\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	
St of CT Surcharges---Conservation Commission--											\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	
Office Supplies---Conservation Commission--											\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	
Office Supplies---Conservation Commission--											\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	
Department: Conservation Commission - 00270											\$390.00	\$3,025.00	\$2,635.00	87.11 %

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
270 CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2022-23	
		<u>FY 2021-22</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>FY 2022-23</u>
50103	<u>PART TIME PAYROLL</u>	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,600
	Recording Clerk for montly meetings (12 x \$130)		
	2020-21	\$ 780	
	2019-20	\$ 650	
	2018-19	\$ 1,250	
	2017-18	\$ 750	
	4 Year Average	\$ 858	
		\$ 1,300	\$ 1,600
60221	<u>ADVERTISING-PRINTING-FORMS</u>		\$ 400
	Brochures (open space, conservation & farmland preservation), commissioner name plates, conservation event supplies, and surveys		
60222	<u>DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS</u>		\$ 1,350
	CT Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commissions (\$60) & CT Land Conservation Council (\$750), Northern CT Land Trust (\$500)		
60223	<u>TRAVEL</u>		\$ -
	N/A		
60234	<u>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</u>		\$ -
	Seminars for commission members		
60250	<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u>		\$ -
60254	<u>STATE OF CT SURCHARGES</u>		\$ -
	N/A		
60341	<u>OFFICE SUPPLIES</u>		\$ -
	N/A		
TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET			\$ 1,750
DEPARTMENT TOTAL			\$ 3,350



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

Tel. 860-870-3120 Town Planner's Office Fax. 860-870-3122

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022, 7:00 PM

IN PERSON ATTENDANCE: TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT
REMOTE ATTENDANCE: ZOOM MEETING
(ATTENDEES BELOW ATTENDED REMOTELY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

PRESENT: Chairman Rebecca Quarno, Vice Chairman David Bidwell and Regular Members George Nickerson, Sean Dwyer, James Gage and Laurie Burstein

ABSENT: Regular Member Robert Zielfelder and Alternates Ann Harford and Jessica Fay

STAFF: Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner (In Person) and Nathaniel Trask, Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Rebecca Quarno called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (On Non-Agenda Items): None

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Plan of Conservation & Development, Chapter 4 - Conservation Strategies, Natural Resource Preservation:

Chairman Quarno introduced the Protected Land Inventory for the Town of Ellington.

- a. Review of Plan of Conservation for potential updates to Chapter 2 – Protected Land Inventory and Table 1.

Ms. Houlihan said she will work on the updates to the Protected Land Inventory and prepare a draft of revisions. Ms. Houlihan indicated that the page is outdated at this point. The document lists that Ellington is 22,138 acres, which is consistent with the 2008 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), however the 2019 POCD lists Ellington as having 22,075 acres of land. The Bellante (Sandy Beach Road) property, the Wraight (Webster Road) property and the Pearl property, which amount to 163.97 acres will need to be added to the inventory. Ms. Houlihan asked the commission if they would like her to update the total acreage of Ellington to be consistent with the current POCD. She also added that the Wraight's sold 36.62 acres of land for development rights to the Connecticut Farmland Trust and that there was a deed placed on the land records in 2019, which she also would like to update. The commissioners indicated that they do not see any issues with making the updates.

Ms. Houlihan said she will work with the GIS consultant on the changes. When speaking with her, the consultant recommended she wait until May to make any updates because that is when the annual update is done for all GIS. An open-space brochure that was created several years ago is also outdated because of the changes, however the original document cannot be located. Ms. Houlihan said that some consultant services money may have to be used to devise a new brochure if the original one cannot be located.

b. Review & Update List of Priority Parcels for Farmland and Open Space.

Ms. Houlihan spoke with First Selectman, Lori Spielman, about approaching the Board of Selectmen and some of the property owners about an open-space purchase on the west side of Green Road. Ms. Spielman agreed and recommended presenting a package to the Board. If the Board does not agree or there are no willing participants, then the project cannot move forward. A letter will be drafted to send to property owners to gauge interest before approaching the Board.

2. Report - Working Farmland Preservation Program:

Ms. Houlihan spoke with the Finance Department about an open-bond authorization for Oakridge Dairy. Finance asked when Oakridge Dairy would close on Farm Easement 1, which is an area of about 116 acres. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg) was contacted, and they said they had to revise the survey of the land, which is currently under review. The purchase is expected to close in May. A press release will be worked on in conjunction with the DoAg to promote the success of the program once the property closes, and a new letter of interest will be sent to farm owners to see if they want to participate in the program.

3. Report - Open Space Preservation Program:

First Selectman, Lori Spielman, spoke with Ms. Houlihan about contacting Scott Brady, the landowner of 79 Kibbe Road. A detailed phone message was left with Mr. Brady last week about the potential purchase of the 25 acre parcel or placing an easement over the area known as Sykes Road that runs through the property.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. FY 21-22 Budget & Expenditure Update.

Chairman Quarno introduced the budget update. There is nothing new to report. Commissioner Bidwell asked if funds are need for the open space pamphlet. Ms. Houlihan said she would search again for the original document before soliciting estimated costs from local sources for creating a new pamphlet for report in April.

2. Approval of the February 8, 2022 regular meeting minutes.

MOVED (GAGE) SECONDED (QUARNO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022 AS WRITTEN.

3. Correspondence:

- a. Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee – Monthly agenda/minutes.

Valerie Amsel, representing the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee, addressed the commission. According to Ellington Parks and Recreation, there is no plan to put a disc golf course on Stein Road. The committee is planning to proceed with the trails on Stein Road. Ms. Amsel said there is nothing new to report on the cross-town trails and that the Crystal Ridge trails will be finished after a meeting with the Board of Selectmen. Commissioner Dwyer asked if the trails had been blazed at Stein Road. Ms. Amsel said that there is still work that needs to be done at the trails on Stein Road.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

**MOVED (DWYER) SECONDED (BIDWELL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:24 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Nathaniel Trask, Recording Clerk



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

CHAIRMAN
LINDA ANDERSON

VICE CHAIRMAN
CYNTHIA VAN ZELM

SECRETARY
DEANNA WAMBOLT-GULICK

VALERIE AMSEL
PAM MCCORMICK
JUDI MANFRE
ANN MCLAUGHLIN
KEN RADZIWON
LARRISSA BURKE

Ad Hoc Ellington
Trails Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2022
Town Hall Annex

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Anderson, Ann McLaughlin, Cynthia van Zelm, Valerie Amsel, Judi Manfre, Larrissa Burke, Ken Radziwon, Pam McCormick

MEMBERS ABSENT: Deanna Wambolt-Gulick

I. Call to Order

Ms. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

II. Citizens' Forum: No citizens wished to be heard.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. February 2, 2022

Ms. Amsel noted that the last sentence under V.B. Stein/Moser should be eliminated – “Ms. Amsel requested that any trail plans be formalized with the Conservation Commission.”

It was also noted under V.A Conservation Commission Report, that the reference to “Wildlife Conservation” should be “Conservation Commission.”

Following the meeting, it was noted that Ms. McCormick was not at the February 2nd meeting.

MOVED (MCCORMICK), SECONDED (VAN ZELM) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2022 REGULAR MEETING WITH CORRECTIONS.

IV. Old Business

A. New Maps Update

The Committee reviewed Mr. Radziwon's first draft of a new map for the Batz Trail which will serve as a template for the other trails. The Committee suggested the following changes: change

the blue background to a more neutral color, add emergency markers and benches that have been mapped by Tom Palshaw, delete Pet Friendly since pets are not allowed on any trails, add No Hunting, and add No Motorized Vehicles.

Ms. Anderson will provide Mr. Radziwon the digital copies of the emergency markers. Ms. McCormick will provide text to describe the emergency markers.

Mr. Radziwon will check with Public Works Director Tim Webb for survey files for the trails.

The Committee agreed on the following steps – finish the maps first and then work on the layout (Ms. van Zelm, Ms. Anderson, and Ms. Burke will work on the layout), work on a QR code of the maps for the website (Mr. Radziwon), and then finally work on some hard copy brochures.

Ms. Anderson said we should use the old maps for the Earth Day event which the Town is now organizing.

B. Hockanum River Association Report

Mr. Palshaw was not present to share at report at this time.

However, a concerned citizen reported that a bench was torn out of the ground and thrown into the Hockanum River by two individuals at Windermere. The bench has not been recovered but the hope is that it will be trapped downstream. If not found, the bench will be replaced and cemented into the ground.

C. Crosstown Bike Trail Update

Ms. Anderson is looking to schedule a meeting on March 23 with people who have expressed interest in serving on a Crosstown Bike Trail group. Only one person has said they can make the meeting. She believes at least two more people are needed to proceed.

D. Crystal Ridge Update

Ms. Anderson and Ms. Amsel went to the Board of Selectmen to receive permission to work on the Crystal Ridge trail. The Selectmen gave conditional approval pending approval of other committees/commission/Town departments. Ms. Anderson had verbal approval from most of those entities but will follow-up to get written approval.

E. Stein/Moser

Ms. Anderson said work by the Committee on a new Stein/Moser trail will need the same approvals as Crystal Ridge. She will work on these approvals in writing.

F. Subcommittee Assignments

Subcommittee assignments were confirmed as follows:

Treasurer: Ms. McLaughlin

Planning & Development: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Burke

Maintenance: Ms. Amsel, Ms. Manfre, Ms. McCormick, Ms. McLaughlin, Ms. Burke

Community Outreach: Ms. van Zelm, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Wambolt-Gulick, Ms. Radziwon, Ms. Burke

G. Wildlife Cams

Ms. Anderson will buy two wildlife cam, one for both Windermere and Kimball, to start.

H. Projects/Goals

Ms. Anderson, Ms. Manfre, and Ms. Amsel walked the Belding trail and decided that a "dog library" which would include sticks for dogs would not work well on Ellington trails since dogs are not allowed off leash.

I. Conservation Commission Report – Val Amsel

Ms. Amsel said the Commission is working on determining whether property owners would like to sell their property to the Town to be preserved.

She said the Commission also wants to donate \$500 to the Trails Committee which it has done in the past.

V. New Business

A. Trees – Metcalf/Tolland

The Town of Tolland has dead/diseased trees on their Town properties. Tolland will be conducting a forest survey and then cutting live and diseased trees. The wood from the live trees, and perhaps some of the dead trees, will be sold to offset the price of cutting them down.

Ms. Anderson reiterated the issue of many diseased trees at Metcalf and the need to take them down.

The course that Tolland is taking is not feasible on Metcalf because a good portion of the trees are dead or diseased, although some may be able to be sold as firewood.

The Committee decided to ask the Town for help at its March 7 Board of Selectmen meeting, with the emphasis on the public safety concern of falling trees and hikers.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

A. Treasurer

Ms. McLaughlin said there were no changes to the expense report. Approximately \$2,000 has been spent this year.

B. Planning & Development

Items under Planning & Development were covered previously in the meeting.

C. Maintenance

Ms. Amsel reiterated that the Northern Land Trust wants to do a joint hike at Boothroyd.

Ms. Amsel suggested setting a regular schedule for clean up at the trails. The Committee agreed to Thursdays at 10 am from March through early May.

Ms. Anderson will also recruit from the Trails Committee volunteer list.

D. Community Outreach

Ms. Anderson will continue to update the calendar of events.

1. Ginny Apple's Talks – March/April

Ms. Anderson said Ginny Apple's talk on "Things That Go Bump in the Night" went very well. The next talk is on beavers on March 28 with an afternoon session at the Senior Center and evening session at the Hall Library.

2. TV Show with Lori

Ms. Anderson will be interviewed for First Selectman Lori Spielman's television show on April 19.

3. Educational Programs – Co-share with Hall Memorial Library

Ms. Anderson said the Library is putting together kits for youth that focus on some of the events the Trails Committee is holding including bird watching, and astronomy.

4. Drone

Ms. van Zelm will contact the person interested in conducting drone photography of the trails soon before the leaves start coming out.

5. Bird Walk with Denise Anamani

Ms. van Zelm said the bird walk with Denise Anamani is scheduled for 7:30 am at Batz on April 30 with a rain date of May 1.

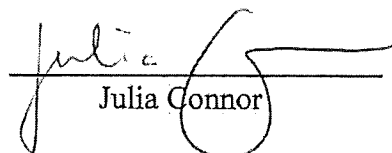
6. CT Trails Day

Ms. van Zelm said she received the information from the CT Forest and Park Association on CT Trails Day and said the location for the Committee's walk could be discussed at the next Trails Committee meeting.

VII. Adjournment

MOVED (VAN ZELM), SECONDED (MCCORMICK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 8:18 PM.

Prepared by Cynthia van Zelm, Vice Chairman; submitted by


Julia Connor

LANDMARK

The newsletter of the Northern Connecticut Land Trust

Number 40

March 2022



"Time spent among trees is never time wasted." ---- Katrina Mayer

2020 Census Shows that Land is the Answer

The Land Trust Alliance released a new report recently finding that 61 million acres were conserved by 1281 land trusts nationally as of year-end 2020, more than a 30% increase since 2010, for a total acreage more than all the national parks combined. This dramatic increase in land conservation shows that the land trust community is gaining ground in Connecticut and nationally. With 1900 acres conserved in north-central Ct, your Northern Ct Land Trust is playing a key role in the land trust movement with your help.

2020 was also a landmark year for traffic to our nation's land trusts. In a time of crisis, land trusts provided a place for 16.7 million individuals to safely gather, exercise and find moments of peace. And those numbers have increased dramatically in 2021. The data also show that local land trusts are leading the way forward — **70% of the growth in land protected since 2015 was achieved by local and state land trusts.** The Land Trust Alliance is proud to share the results of the **2020 National Land Trust Census** with our community (or visit: <http://findalandtrust.org/land-trusts/gaining-ground/united-states>) . You can also check the status of any state at this site.

Connecticut boasts of having 107 land trusts, third most of the 50 states, behind Massachusetts and California. The oldest Trust is 127 years old, while the most recently formed Trust came about just 15 years ago. These organizations have over 22,000 members/financial supporters, 1120 Board members, and accomplish their work with over 4400 volunteers. They have preserved over 200,000 acres, most of which is open for public enjoyment.

But, if we are to continue gaining ground in addressing the climate crisis, halting biodiversity loss, and ensuring equitable access to the benefits of nature, we need land conservation as a priority for funding and programming at every level of government, and support from all our town residents. ***The stakes are high, but so are the opportunities.*** Together, let's make 2022 a banner year for land conservation in Connecticut.



Nipmuck Woods "Adventure Trail"

Trust volunteers are developing a trail system on the Stafford Nipmuck Woods property off Rt 190 in Stafford that is intended to appeal to all ages and interests. The 79-acre forested parcel that abuts the Nipmuck State Forest was acquired in 2017 from the Stafford Fish and Game Club. Led by the efforts of Richard Bailey and Mary Baugher, planning is underway for signage, benches, and interactive activities for school-age children up thru senior adults to enjoy the property and learn as you go. Several visits by state naturalists and historical experts have helped identify several interesting

Andover Property Transfer Completed

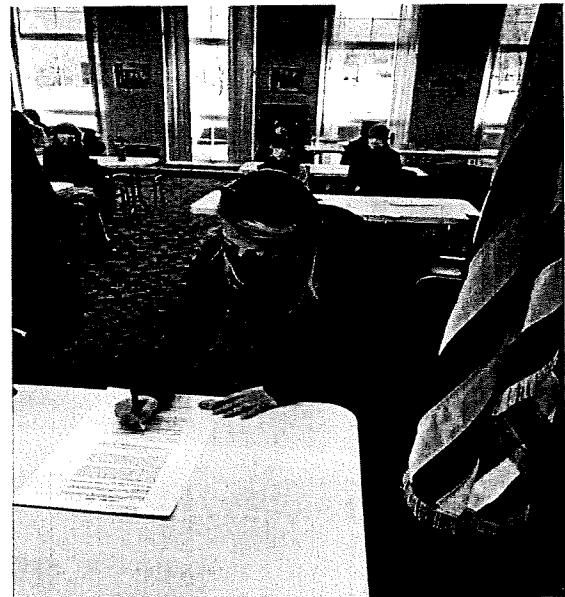
Land Trusts are known for their preservation of property efforts whether the preservation is for agricultural lands or hiking trails, or sometimes just to preserve land. It isn't often when a land trust that has been donated land gives that land to another entity, in this case the Town of Andover, to combine it with other open space property to create a large contiguous piece to enjoy. The Town of Andover, the Talbot family and the Northern CT Land Trust did just that. On Wednesday Jan. 19, 2022, Andover officials and others met at Andover Town Hall to witness Thomas D. Talbot signing the deed that conveyed ownership of his 7.84-acre "Wildcat Lot" over to the Town of Andover. This signing brought to a successful conclusion a multiyear effort to combine five separate lots into a single 37.74-acre contiguous lot now belonging to the town. The new parcel was formed from 2 lots previously owned by Andover, 2 lots donated by the Northern Ct Land Trust, and finally Talbot's lot. The newly formed parcel is adjacent to the Andover/Bolton town line between Shoddy Mill Rd and Boston Hill Rd and is part of a very large forested undeveloped section of Andover.

In the spring of 2019, the NCLT approached Andover officials and inquired if they would be interested in accepting donation of the 2 NCLT properties in Andover since the properties fell outside the typical areas served by the Trust. These properties, plus land nearby in Bolton, were donated to the NCLT in 2000 by F. William Finley and his sister Ruth Finley Bell. The properties had been in the Finley family since 1877 when as the result of a judgment against the previous owner for an unpaid debt, the deputy sheriff of Tolland County set off these lots to David C. Finley,

features and facts to be highlighted. The Northeast Land Trust Advancement Initiative, sponsored by the Ct. Land Conservation Council and Last Green Valley, has appropriated a \$1000 matching grant to help fund the materials required for the project. The loop trail of approximately .7 miles, recently completed, is intended to be accessible and easily transited by all ages. As work continues with spring completion in mind, watch the Trust website for further progress and information. We hope this brings an exciting, unique opportunity for outdoor activity and learning for all to enjoy.

grandfather of the brother and sister. Shortly after the Trust approached Andover officials, Andover wetlands agent John Valente contacted Thomas D. Talbot inquiring if he would consider donating his 7.84-acre property as that would connect all 5 properties, and Talbot agreed. This lot has a unique place in Andover history as the deed for the conveyance of this lot in 1849 is on Page 1 of Volume 1, thus becoming the first property ever recorded in the Andover Land Records after Andover became a town in 1848.

Patrice Carson, NCLT President, sings over Andover parcels.



"Nature, time, and patience are the three great physicians." ---- Chinese Proverb

2022 Outdoor Activity Schedule

Check News and Events at www.northernctlandtrust.org for latest announcements

Sun March 27 – Culver Pond – We will take a 2 ½ mile loop hike and look for signs of Spring at Culver Pond in Stafford. Culver Pond and Rock of Dundee Brook is the origin of the Scantic River. This will be a leisurely paced walk. The parking is off Gilbert Road which is a gravel road, left off Mountain Rd in Somers. For further info, call Albert Grant at 860-623-5487

Sat. April 16 - Sunset / Moonlight at Skyline – 6:30 PM sharp - moonrise at 5:23, sunset at 7:32. We will hike around Trust's 65 acre Skyline Scenic Area on Stafford Rd near Somers/Stafford line. We will enjoy the sunset and beautiful view across valley towards Springfield from atop the mountain, have a snack if you would like to bring one, then return by the light of the moon. Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190 near the intersection of Rt. 83 and carpool to the site. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487

Sat., May 7 – Canoe and Kayak Paddle of Upper Bolton Lake in Vernon -Take a leisurely tour of this pristine lake setting, perfect for bird-watching, photo opportunities, or just a quiet morning enjoying the outdoors. Meet at the boat launch area off Hatch Hill Road at 9:00 AM. Must bring your own boat, paddles, and life vests. Call Karl at 860-649-4949 for more information

Sun, May 8 - Mother's Day hike on McCann Family Farm - 10:00 AM. Comfortable trail walk thru field and forest. Good bird-watching habitat. Mothers bring the kids – kids bring your mother! Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190 near the intersection of Rt. 83. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487

Sun May 15 – Nipmuck Woods – Family walk in Stafford – 10:00 AM. Leisurely 1 mile walk on the newly created Nipmuck Adventure Path, stopping along the way for stories and exploring the natural world, including 2 very impressive glacial erratic boulders. Good even t for families with small children as well as anyone who enjoys being around children. Meet at the large pulloff on the south side of Rt 190 a short distance past Rockwell Rd, east of the center of Stafford Springs. For additional information, contact trip leader Richard Bailey at 860-749-0061.

Sat, June 4 - Trails Weekend - 10:00 AM - We will follow blazed trails through the Land Trust's premier 200+ acre, Whitaker Woods property, featuring woodland and a cow pasture. This approximately 2 ½ mile hike will be scenic, with bridge crossings and beautifully constructed and well-preserved stone walls. We will discuss the natural and land use history as well as local wildlife along the way. Meet behind the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190, near the intersection of Rt. 83 in the center of Somers. We will car pool to the trailhead. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487, albert_grant@sbcglobal.net.

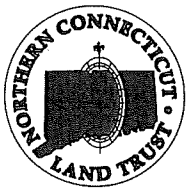
Sun, June 19- Father's Day Hike at Ernie Boothroyd and Bellante Preserve, Ellington - 11:00 AM. The 58-acre Ernie Boothroyd Preserve was acquired by NCLT in 2010. The Bellante Property is 36 acres abutting the Boothroid Preserve that was recently acquired. The hike will be about 2 miles featuring abundant mountain laurel in bloom. From Stafford, take Tolland Ave south for 1.5 miles. The Boothroyd Preserve is on the right. Coming from the south; from the Tolland Green take Old Stafford Road (becomes Tolland Turnpike) 4.8 miles north to Ernie Boothroyd Preserve on the left. For further information contact leader Albert Grant, 860-623-5487.

Sun, Sept 11 – Bald Mtn. Preserve, Somers - 10:00 AM – We will hike through two Land Trust properties as well as Town of Somers and State of CT properties. These comprise the Bald Mountain Preserve, which includes the entire summit of the tallest of the surrounding mountains. The trails are steep and rocky in some places but not difficult with good shoes. The distance will be about 2 ½ miles. Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St. Rt. 190 near the intersection of Rt. 83. For questions contact Albert Grant 860 623-5487

Sun, Oct 2 – Skyline Scenic Area – 10:00 AM - Foliage hike with great views of the valley to the west. The distance will be about 2 1/2 miles. Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190, near the intersection of Rt. 83. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487

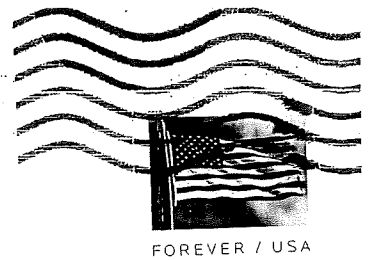
Sun., October 16 – Fall foliage along Railroad Brook gorge in Vernon. Leisurely walk thru the Trust's Andrew Webster Knapp property to the Rails-to-trails, then up to the ridge overlooking Valley Falls Park and Railroad Brook for some beautiful scenery. Fairly energetic walk with up and down steep slopes, 1 to 1 ½ hours. Meet at the Valley Falls parking lot off Valley Falls Road at 9:00 AM. Call Karl at 860-649-4949 for further information

"Colors are the smiles of nature." ---- Leigh Hunt



HARTFORD CT 060

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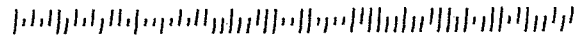


LANDMARK: *Newsletter of the*

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PO Box 324
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Ellington Conservation Commission
55 Main St
Ellington CT 06029

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If you have a friend interested in joining the Trust and supporting the work of protecting our natural resources, please pass this newsletter on to them. Contributions are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIPS:	Individual	\$25	Family	\$35
			Sustaining	\$50
			Patron	\$100
			Benefactor	\$1000

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