



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, JUNE 14, 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 Green Road Properties.
2. Report - Working Farmland Preservation Program:
3. Report - Open Space Preservation Program:

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. FY 21-22 Budget & Expenditure Update.
2. Approval of the April 12, 2022 regular meeting minutes.
3. Correspondence:
 - a. Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee – Monthly agenda/minutes.

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/89979072699>

Meeting ID: 899 7907 2699

Passcode: 926653

Join Zoom Meeting by phone:

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

Meeting ID: 899 7907 2699

Passcode: 926653

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	LOCKED	5/29/2014
179 001 0000	GREEN RD	GRANT GEORGE M + LESLIE J	87 PIONEER HEIGHTS	SOMERS	CT	06071	W	31.5	V/F/U	1/3/2006
138 002 0000	GREEN RD	GREEN ROAD AERO SOCIETY LLC	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: 6/9/2022

Account Number	Description	Adj. Budget	Current	YTD	Balance	Encumbrance	Budget Bal	%Bud
1000.02.00220.10.50103	Part Time--Econ Devet Commission	\$1,300.00	\$520.00	\$520.00	\$780.00	\$0.00	\$780.00	60.00%
Transaction Detail (Maximum)								
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo
1/21/2022	280	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 ECON DEV Comm-Part Time
2/18/2022	312	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 ECON DEV Comm-Part Time
4/29/2022	668	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 ECON DEV Comm-Part Time
5/27/2022	742	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 ECON DEV Comm-Part Time
				Detail Total:				\$520.00
1000.02.00220.20.60221	Advertising Printing--Econ Devet Commission--	\$400.00	\$324.00	\$324.00	\$76.00	\$0.00	\$76.00	19.00%
Transaction Detail (Maximum)								
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo
12/16/2021	203	601404	0	202247	0	1027	0	0 202247
4/28/2022	607	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 Reclass Adkins Invoice \$154
				Detail Total:				\$324.00
1000.02.00220.20.60222	Dues & Subscriptions--Econ Devet Commission--	\$750.00	\$730.00	\$730.00	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	2.67%
Transaction Detail (Maximum)								
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo
10/22/2021	114	600979	0	1808	0	1020	0	0 1808
4/20/2022	568	602554	0	EDC membership	0	1047	0	0 EDC membership
4/20/2022	568	602554	0	Regular Member 1st	0	1047	0	0 Regular Member 1st
				Detail Total:				\$730.00
1000.02.00220.20.60223	Travel--Econ Devet Commission--	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1000.02.00220.20.60232	Postage--Econ Devet Commission--	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1000.02.00220.20.60233	Education--Econ Devet Commission	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
1000.02.00220.20.60234	Professional Development--Econ Devet Commission--	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	50.00%
Transaction Detail (Maximum)								
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo
3/10/2022	331	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 Professional Development--Econ Devet Commission--
4/20/2022	568	602629	0	00337	0	1047	0	0 00337
4/29/2022	668	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 Professional Development - Econ Devet Comm
6/2/2022	760	602977	0	00375	0	1054	0	0 00375
				Detail Total:				\$50.00
1000.02.00220.20.60250	Contracted Services--Econ Devet Commission--	\$2,800.00	\$404.00	\$404.00	\$2,396.00	\$0.00	\$2,396.00	85.57%
Transaction Detail (Maximum)								
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo
11/18/2021	130	601142	0	59132	0	1024	0	0 59132
				Detail Total:				\$404.00
1000.02.00220.30.60341	Office Supplies--Econ Devet Commission--	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Transaction Detail (Maximum)								
Date	Entry	Check No	Deposit No	Invoice No	PO Number	Voucher	Shipment	Memo
11/18/2021	130	601142	0	59132	0	1024	0	0 59132
				Detail Total:				\$0.00
				Department: Econ Devet Commission - 00220				\$3,322.00
								62.09%



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

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

PRESENT: Remote Attendance: Chairman Rebecca Quarno, Regular Members Sean Dwyer, James Gage, Robert Zielfelder, and George Nickerson (arrived at 7:38 PM), and Alternate Jessica Fay. In Person: Alternate Ann Harford

ABSENT: Vice Chairman David Bidwell and Regular Member Laurie Burstein

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

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Rebecca Quarno called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

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

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.

Ms. Houlihan noted that the last time the Inventory of Open Space, Farmland, and Recreational Assets was updated was in 2014, and cited an error for the "T" Properties that has been corrected (the properties were previously listed as having an area of 73.32 acres, but this was corrected to 73.35 acres). Since the last update, the Bellante (Sandy Beach Road), Wraight (Webster Road), and Pearl parcels have been added as open space properties by the land trust. The Bird Sanctuary is owned by the South Windsor Land Trust, not the Audubon, who is erroneously listed as the owner on the Inventory of Open Space, Farmland, and Recreational Assets. Ms. Houlihan said that the previous total area of preserved space by the land trust was 171.54 acres but is now 336.38 acres. Bahler Farm, Oakridge Dairy Farm (Jobs Hill Road), and Wraight Farm were added to the list of farmland since it was last updated, which increased the total area from 763 acres to 977.25 acres. The total amount of open space, farmland, and recreational assets increased from 3,654 acres to 4,033.30 acres. The total area of the Town of Ellington is 22,075.

Commissioner Gage suggested changing the owner names for the sites listed on the Land Trust Parcels from "Connecticut Land Trust, Inc." to "Northern Connecticut Land Trust, Inc." Ms. Houlihan said that the correct name was listed on the spreadsheet, however it did not print out.

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

A list of parcels was compiled along Green Road for potential farmland or open space purchase. There are a total of 238.56 acres on the west side of Green Road. The parcel with the Eversource easement is 171 acres. The properties listed on Green Road were compiled as potential areas for a cross-town trail along the power line. Ms. Houlihan asked the commission if they wanted to consider purchasing any of the parcels from the landowners as open space purchases. Commissioner Zielfelder asked what the planned route for the cross-town trail was. Ms. Houlihan said that South Windsor has a cross-town trail and approached the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee about possibly extending the trail along the power lines from the South Windsor line to the Somers line, including land along Green Road. Valerie Amsel, representing the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee, indicated that the process in South Windsor has been ongoing for ten years.

Ms. Houlihan said the parcels along Green Road are mostly residentially zoned, except for portions of Decarli, Inc. and the gravel pit, which are industrially zoned. Chairman Quarno asked if the commission would need to gauge the interest of the property owners before presenting the proposition to the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Houlihan said she could send a letter-of-interest to the property owners stating that the Conservation Commission is interested in this area for the purpose of open space or farmland preservation and to contact the Planning Department if they are interested in preserving their land or want to enter into a contract with the town for an open space or farmland preservation purchase. The commission agreed that Ms. Houlihan should send a letter-of-interest to the property owners before the next meeting.

MOVED (HARFORD) SECONDED (GAGE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENDORSE THE REVISIONS TO THE INVENTORY OF OPEN SPACE, FARMLAND, AND RECREATIONAL ASSETS, AND CHANGE THE OWNER NAME FOR THE BIRD SANCTUARY TO THE SOUTH WINDSOR LAND TRUST.

2. Report - Working Farmland Preservation Program:

Ms. Houlihan said the Connecticut Department of Agriculture anticipates the other farm owned by Oakridge Dairy, LLC would close in May. She also said that more interest in the preservation program might come from the letter-of-interest being sent to the property owners on Green Road, and an additional letter-of-interest that will be sent to other farms in town once the parcel owned by Oakridge Dairy, LLC closes. The last time a letter of this type was sent to farms was in 2018.

3. Report - Open Space Preservation Program:

Ms. Houlihan called Scott Brady of 79 Kibbe Road again to see if he is interested in selling the property for open space preservation. She said that he is not currently listing the property for sale, however he would talk to his siblings – who are also named in the trust – to see if they were interested. She said that First Selectman, Lori Spielman, would call Mr. Brady to follow-up on the conversation.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. FY 21-22 Budget & Expenditure Update & FY 22-23 Revised Budget Proposal.

Ms. Houlihan reiterated that the Board of Finance has asked for all departments to present budgets this year as a zero-based budget. She said that \$1,500 was originally put into the Contracted Services account and was itemized as donations of \$500 each to the Connecticut Land Conservation Council, Northern Connecticut Land Trust, and the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee. The Board of Finance did not approve the \$500 donation for the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee because the committee has their own budget now, and \$1,000 relocated to Dues & Subscriptions. The fiscal year 2022-23 overall proposed budget has been reduced from \$3,850 to \$3,350.

Commissioner Harford asked if the commission was doing any advertising this spring. Ms. Houlihan said there is an Earth Day event on April 23. She also said that the first annual Ellington Farm Day is tentatively set for September 17, 2022, and she has written a letter to farms in town to see if they are interested in participating. The Economic Development Commission will advertise it.

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

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

3. Correspondence:

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

Ms. Amsel, representing the Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee, addressed the commission. She said the committee received money from the Conservation Commission this year. The committee has spent a lot of time clearing trails this spring and is using some of the money provided by the commission to buy a battery-operated leaf blower to make the process easier and faster. The trail at Metcalf has been closed due to an ongoing problem with the trees. It is estimated that \$50,000 is needed to take care of the trees in that area. Additionally, emergency locator signs are being installed along trails in town, and information for these will be put at the trail kiosks. The committee will be observing the trails at Stein Road on April 15th to take note of what is needed for bridges along the trails. The trails committee will install signs from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection at trail kiosks warning hikers about dead and fallen trees.

Commissioner Harford referred to a news story that came out recently that addressed pollution in the Hockanum River. She said the article mentioned that Vernon, Manchester, and East Hartford are warning residents by putting up signs saying that the fish should not be consumed. Ms. Amsel said she has not heard anything about Ellington. Commissioner Dwyer said he helped install the signs along the Hockanum River in East Hartford, and that the text is in English and Spanish. He suggested contacting the North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) for guidance. Ms. Houlihan will check-in with the Ellington Department of Public Works and NCDHD to

see if signs will be posted. Commissioner Harford asked to be updated. Trail volunteers can assist with posting signs.

- b. Northern CT Land Trust Landmark newsletter March 2022

Commissioner Quarno said there is a list of outdoor activities scheduled for 2022 in the newsletter.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

**MOVED (HARFORD) SECONDED (QUARNO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:51 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
May 4, 2022
Town Hall Annex

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pam McCormick, Deanna Wambolt-Gulick

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Palshaw, Bruce Dinnie

- I. **Call to Order:** Ms. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
- II. **Citizens' Forum:** No citizens wished to be heard.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. April 6, 2022

There were a number of corrections made.

Pam McCormick was not listed as an attending member.

Under Hockanum River Report, the plastic water tanks can be used as long as they are covered.

Under Wildlife Cams, the name should be changed to Ms. Anderson.

Under Maintenance, the stairs at Kimball are not cabled and they need to be put back into place. The bridge is cabled.

Under Trails Day, the location of the hike was switched to Kimball and the date is June 4th at 10:00 am.

MOVED (MANFRE), SECONDED (BURKE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2022 REGULAR MEETING AS CORRECTED.

IV. **Old Business**

A. Hockanum River Association Report

Mr. Palshaw reported that the West Road trail has been cleaned and wood chips have been put down. The original trail on Franklin Street has been restored.

Mr. Palshaw moved the emergency marker at the end of the trail at Kimball to the new exit to match the map. He suggested to have two parking spaces made at the exit of Kimball Trail in the future; there is room for these spaces. Also, the cable at the exit needs to be pulled out or cut (not active). Mr. Palshaw has updated the emergency maps and sheets for Kimball and Boulder.

Mr. Palshaw informed the Committee of a fire that was started on the Franklin Trail and reported by a neighbor. Emergency Services were able to use the Mr. Palshaw's emergency signs to find the exact location of the fire, showing that the signs are working.

Ms. Anderson informed Mr. Palshaw and the Committee that there will be a cleanup on the Windermere Trail on June 7th from 1:00-5:00 pm for "Neighbors Make the Difference Day." This is being sponsored by Key Bank and local State Leaders; invitees include Representative Jaime Foster, Tom Arnone, Carol Hall, the Committee, Lori Spielman, and residents. Parking will be at the Pinney Street Fields with access to the trail. Dustin Huguenin, Recreation Director, was contacted about this parking situation and said that as long as the group is gone by 5:00 pm, there won't be a problem using the parking area. The group will also complete a Town Property Use Form.

Since there will be little litter to pick up, Ann Harford was spoken with about putting down mulch. This will need to be coordinated with Public Works, the Hockanum River Association, Gerber, and Rachel Dearborn in order to get the mulch pile close to the area of the trail where it is needed. Wheelbarrows and tools will also need to be provided. Another possible job for the day would be fixing one of the bridges.

B. New Maps Update

Mr. Radziwon presented the newest update on the Batz Map, which will be used as a template for all future map updates. It was well received by all Committee members; the colors, legend, trail description and size is perfect. Ms. Anderson suggested adding the community garden, sensory garden, pavilion and picnic tables. Mr. Radziwon added these changes and presented a new map the next day to be reviewed at the June meeting.

Ms. Anderson mentioned that First Selectman Spielman suggested including all maps with next year's Annual Report that can be torn out and used.

C. Crosstown Bike Trail Update

There was nothing new to report; information was passed out during the Earth Day event.

D. Crystal Ridge Update

Final approval was granted at the April Board of Selectmen meeting, with Eagle Scout Zachary McTighe present, to start improving existing trails (cleaning, blazing, new bridge and a bench) and to create a new trail.

E. Stein/Moser Update

On May 9, Ms. Amsel will be attending the Board of Selectmen meeting to get approval to develop the Stein/Moser Town Parcel. This development will be done in two phases. The first phase will include blazing and cleaning the Main Loop Trail along with installing three bridges (one needs shoring up.) The second phase will be cleaning and blazing the lollipop (side) trails, along with fixing an existing bridge. Rachel Dearborn will be attending the May 9 Inland Wetlands Agency meeting to get final approval for the bridges. Planning and Zoning have given written approval for work on this Town Parcel.

F. Conservation Commission Report – Val Amsel

The Commission is still pursuing the purchase of property on Green Road.

G. Metcalf Update

The property is closed. The Committee and the Town have placed closed signs on the property, and it has been shared via the Town's Facebook page and the Town Newsletter.

V. New Business

A. Trail of Treats

Ms. Anderson met with the Ellington Lions Club to discuss their group taking over Trail of Treats; they were receptive of the idea.

The Committee would co-sponsor this year, and the Lions Club would take over full control in 2023. All funds collected by the vendors would go to the Lions Club; they are meeting on May 9th to discuss this with the members, and they will let the Committee know of the decision that is made.

B. Cow Chip Bingo

The Committee was asked to participate in Cow Chip Bingo at the end of July; this invitation will be declined due to the lack of help available.

C. Other

Ms. Anderson received an email from an Ellington beekeeper who expressed interest in placing three beehives on the Batz Property. Unfortunately, after discussing the pros and cons of this, the Committee agreed to decline the offer. Ms. Anderson will let the beekeeper know of some possible alternatives.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

A. Treasurer

Ms. McLaughlin reported that there is \$5,552.42 left in the budget; the Committee has not received the bill for the blower yet.

1. Conservation Donation

The Committee will not be receiving a donation from the Conservation Commission since, as mentioned in previous minutes, the support is no longer needed since the Committee is funded by the Town. The Trails Committee appreciates the previous donations that were received.

B. Planning & Development

Related discussion was held under Old Business.

C. Maintenance

Ms. Amsel reported that all trails have been cleaned of leaves and debris at Kimball, Batz and Windermere. At the Earth Day event, a concerned citizen asked about a bridge at the YMCA that needs work. That bridge is on the YMCA property and is not a concern of the Committee.

Ms. Amsel will be buying an extra battery for the blower and gave the Committee an estimate of \$2,400 for wood needed for Stein and Moser. The Committee asked Ms. Amsel to buy the wood.

D. Community Outreach

1. Earth Day

Ms. Anderson reported that Earth Day was a successful event. The Committee handed out 80 maps of the trails, met new residents in Town and answered many questions. Discussion was held on doing a Trail Cleanup event with Key Bank and Representative Jaime Foster's team. Discussion has been held with Big Y about possibly helping build bridges at Stein. Erin Stavens has asked if the Committee would like her to make a cow cutout of the Trails mascot for future events, and the Committee said yes.

2. TV Show with Lori

Ms. Anderson taped a 30-minute video with First Selectman Spielman, discussing the work of the Committee. The video can be watched on the Town's Facebook page.

3. Drone

Overall, everyone was very happy and appreciative of the drone footage. There are no changes needed to the Kimball video. The bridge segment in the Batz video will have to be removed

since it's on private property. The Committee would like the Batz video to focus on the trails for 30 seconds, keep the amphitheater footage, and reduce the fire pit footage, as it takes too long to focus in on the pit. The Committee would like Hunter to take drone footage in July or August of the Sensory Garden and the Community Garden, and if he can add in captions for features that would be great. Mr. Radziwon suggested a standard template for captions, such as: Ellington Trails, Name of Trails, and start by showing the location of the kiosk and parking of the trail, and then show highlights as described above; perhaps music could be added. Ms. van Zelm will follow up with Hunter with the suggested changes and ask him to attend the July or August meeting with the adjusted footage. Hunter will also film Windermere once his drone is repaired.

4. Bird Watching/Walk

The Bird Walk at Batz on April 30 with Denise Anamani was very successful. There were nine participants, and 25 bird species were seen or heard.

5. Printing

Signs for the Sensory Garden, "No Mowing" signs for the Batz Wildflower Field, maps for each kiosk, and "Tree Damage" signs are all on order.

6. Ellington Farmers' Market - Date

The date for the Committee to set up at the Farmers' Market is July 9th, the Bugs and Bees day.

7. Trails Day

Trails Day is June 4; a walk will be hosted at 10:00 am at Kimball. Ms. Anderson, Ms. van Zelm, Ms. McLaughlin and Ms. Amsel will be in attendance.

8. T-Shirts

The Committee asked for t-shirt sizes for the next meeting for Mr. Radziwon and children, Ms. Burke and children, and Ms. Wambolt-Gulick and children.

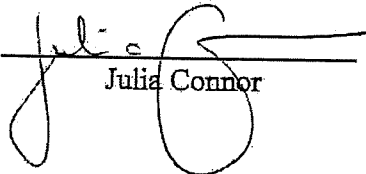
9. Battery-Operated Photo Display

Ms. McCormick suggested that, if there is money left over at the end of the fiscal year, the Committee should look into purchasing a battery-operated photo display for table set-ups at future events. The cost would be around \$150.

VII. Adjournment

MOVED (BURKE), SECONDED (VAN ZELM) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 8:15 PM.

Prepared by Linda Anderson, Chairman; submitted by


Julia Connor