# TOWN OF ELLINGTON CONNECTICUT RECOGNATE SEAL

### STATE OF CONNECTICUT - COUNTY OF TOLLAND

**INCORPORATED 1786** 

### TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55MAINSTREET-POBOX 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, NOVEMBER 14, 2023, 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. Review Plan of Conservation & Development, Chapter 4-Conservation Strategies, Natural Resource Preservation. (Distributed January 10,2023)
- 2. Review Sustainable CT Certification Action Overview Worksheet Conservation Sections.
  - 5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practices.
- 3. Report Farmland Preservation Program.
- 4. Report Open Space Preservation Program Realtor.com listing for Assessor Parcel Number 126-001-001, 49.62 acres, Webster Road in the Rural Agricultural Residential (RAR) zone.

### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

- 1. FY 23-24 Budget & Expenditure Update:
  - a. Request to approve annual donation to the CT Land Conservation Council.
- 2. Approval of October 10, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
- 3. Draft 2024 Ellington Conservation Commission meeting schedule.
- 4. Correspondence/Discussion:
  - a. Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee Monthly Agendas/Minutes.

### **V. ADJOURNMENT:**

### The next regular meeting is December 12, 2023.

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

Join Zoom Meeting via link:

Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81209949324

Meeting ID: 812 0994 9324

Passcode: 990212

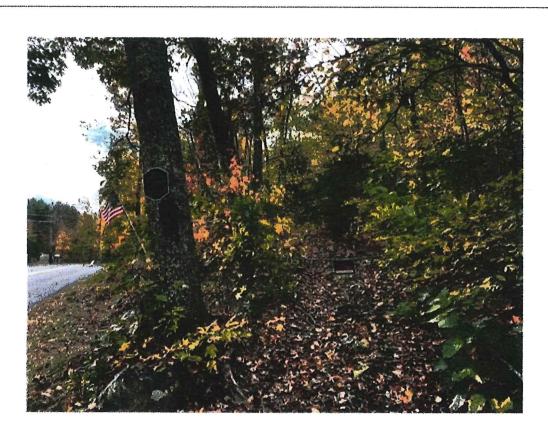
Join Zoom Meeting by phone: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York) Meeting ID: 812 0994 9324

Passcode: 990212

# ellington planner wants your thoughts on 1 Webster Rd



realtor.com <share@email.realtor.com>



\$469,000 1 Webster Rd Ellington, CT 06029

# Webster Road - 126-001-0001 - 49.62 Acres 126 001 0001 Webster Road 49.62 Acres

### **Property Information**

Property ID 126 001 0001 Location WEBSTER RD Owner DICEMBRINO ALBERTO

### **Map Theme Legends**

Trails, Open Space and Farmland

- LAND TRUST OPEN SPACE /
- PRESERVED FARMLAND
- STATE OPEN SPACE
- TOWN OPEN SPACE



# MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT

Town of Ellington, CT makes no claims and no warranties, expressed or implied, concerning the validity or accuracy of the GIS data presented on this map.

Geometry updated 11/11/2021 Data updated daily Print map scale is approximate. Critical layout or measurement activities should not be done using this resource.

1" = 1985.1575987985632 ft

Ellinaton

Location:						Card No:	10f1	
WEBSIER KD	2 RD	<b>A</b>	Map Id: 126 00	126 001 0001	Zone: R/	RAR	Date Printed:	10/23/2023
		Ž	Neighborhood:	R89			Last Update:	10/23/2023
	Owner Of Record		Volume/Page	Date	Sales	Sales Type	Valid	Sale Price
DICEMBRINO ALBERTO	10000		0540/0857	2/6/2023				300,000
10 MINOR HILL RD, ELLINGTON, CT 06029	5029				Exempt			
		Prior Owner History	r History					
Permit Number Date	Permit Description							
		Supplemental Data				A	Appraised Value	
Census/Tract 5352		VisionPID	007			Total Land Value		234,300
GISID		Sub Div	MOOBE			Total Building Value	lue	0
Route K8-K10		Survey Map	H-1445		1	Total Outbidg Value	9	c
District		Zone 2				of Moulest Value	١ ,	0 00
Utilities					5	iotal Market Value	<b>D</b>	234,300
	Acres				State Item Codes	les		
Land Type	Acres 490	Total Value	Code			Quantity	Value	
Res Vac Excess			62-Forest			49.62	÷	13.540
Res Vacant House Lot	0.92 0.92							
Total	,							
	Sessment				490 App	490 Appraised Totals		
		2021		Type	SS	Value Type	Acres	s Value
Land 13,540	13,540	13,540		Forest	49.62 19352			
Building 0	0	0						
Outbuilding	0	0						
Total 13,540	13.540	13.540	<u>-</u>			Totals	Totals 49.62	19352
				Application Date: 7/27/2023	e: 7/27/2023	Expiration D	ate: 10/1/2033	
7/30/2021 2021 49.62AC SPLIT FR	ROM 126-001-0000 H-1445; (	2021 49.52AC SPLIT FROM 126-001-0000 H-1445; ON FOREST 2014; WAS OPN SPC 1980	C 1980					

Information may be deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.

Revaluation Date: 10/1/2015

1 Of 1 Area/Qty Condition Card No: Year Detached Component Computations Type Area/Qty Area/Oty Ellinaton Area Condition Year Attached Components Year **Total Building Value:** Description Type Туре **WEBSTER RD** Count/Area Total Bedroom Kitchens Full Baths Half Baths 4 126 001 0001 General Description Unique ID: 20210001 Special Features Room Summary Foundation Interior Basement Area Finished Basement Garage Bays Outside Entry Sump Pump Overall Condition Percent Complete Finished Area Stories Design (Style) Walls Bath Cond Kitchen Cond Floors Attic Access \_ocation: Cooling Type Construction **Building Use Heating Type** 'Map Id: Roof Cover Roof Type Year Built Exterior Class Units Type Fuel

Town of Ellington

General Ledger - On Demand Report	Fiscal Year: 2023-2024	1-2024	From Date:7/1/2023		To Date:10/31/2023	
Account Mask: ?????00270?????	Account Type: All	_	- L	Print Detail	Include Pre	cumbrance
Account Number / Description	Include Inactive Accounts   Budget   Pange To Da	<b>→</b> ♀	Lilter Encumbrance Detail by Date Kange	Detail by Date R	/0 00 conqu	Budget Balance
	ı	ige to Date	<u>.</u>	palance	Encumbrance % Remaining Bud	maining bud
1000.02.00270.10.50103	\$1,600.00	\$390.00	\$390.00	\$1,210.00	\$0.00	\$1,210.00
Part TimeConservation Commission						75.63%
1000.02.00270.20.60221	\$400.00	(\$200.00)	(\$200.00)	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Advertising PrintingConservation Commission						150.00%
1000.02.00270.20.60222	\$1,350.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00	\$0.00	\$1,350.00
Dues & SubscriptionsConservation Commission						100.00%
1000.02.00270.20.60223	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TravelConservation Commission						0.00%
1000.02.00270.20.60234	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Professional Development—Conservation Commission						0.00%
1000.02.00270.20.60250	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contracted ServicesConservation Commission						0.00%
1000.02.00270.20.60254	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
St of CT SurchargesConservation Commission						0.00%
1000.02.00270.20.60341	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office SuppliesConservation Commission						0.00%
1000.02.00270.30.60341	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office SuppliesConservation Commission						0.00%
Fund: 1000	\$3,350.00	\$190.00	\$190.00	\$3,160.00	\$0.00	\$3,160.00

		Town of Ellington				
General Ledger - On Demand Report	nd Report	Fiscal Year: 2023-2024	From Date:7/1/2023		To Date:10/31/2023	
Account Mask: ??????00270?????		Account Type: All	_	☐ Print Detail	☐ Print Detail ☐ Include PreEncumbrance	cumbrance
	Print accounts with zero balance	Include Inactive Accounts	Filter Encumbrance Detail by Date Range	etail by Date R		Budget Balance
Account Number / Description		Budget Range To Date	QTY YTD	Balance	Encumbrance % Remaining Bud	emaining Bud
	Grand Total:	\$3,350.00 \$190.00	\$190.00	\$3,160.00	\$0.00	\$3,160.00

End of Report

CONNECTICUT land Conservation Council

Donate securely online or submit your gift using this envelope.

860-852-5512 ctconservation.org

**Yes, I/we want to** make a difference and strengthen land conservation policy and funding, support land trusts, and accelerate conservation statewide.

Name/Organization Town of Ellington Co (as you wish to be acknowledged)	uservation (	Commission
(as you wish to be acknowledged)		
Address 57 Main Street		
City Ellington  Phone \$60-870-3120	State	Zip 06029
Phone 860-870-3120		
E-mail Literlihan @ Ellington - CT. Cov		
Como mando ana accominante de los estas la como	<b>.</b>	

Some people are surprised to know that donations of stock can save them as much as 70% on taxes; others find that gifts via their IRA can avoid triggering taxes and maximize their impact. It's easy to do. Check out our website: ctconservation.org.

You can make a difference. Be a hero each month!
I want to help increase the pace of conservation year-round.
Please charge my credit card for
months at
\$per month,
starting[month].
A minimum \$5 monthly contribution is required to participate.

Your gift matters. Contributions of any size are welcome and make a difference. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law. Our financial statements are available upon request.

	\$2,500	□ \$1,000	□ \$750	□ \$500	
	\$250	□ \$100	□ \$50	X Other \$ 450.00	
	My check paya	able to <b>Connectic</b> i	ut Land Con	servation Council is enclosed.	
	Contribution t	o my credit card:	□ Visa	☐ Mastercard	
	Name (as it app	pears on card)			
	Card Number_				
	Exp. Date	/ CW_		Billing Zip Code	
				ire	
	My employer v		Connecticut	Land Conservation Council and	
3	Please keep m	y gift anonymous.		•	

 $\ \square$  I'm interested in giving stocks, bonds, property, or other appreciated assets.

Please contact me for more details.

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON CONNECTICUT DECONSECTICUT SCALARS SEAL

# 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, OCTOBER 10, 2023, 7:00 PM

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

PRESENT:

In-Person: Chairman Rebecca Quarno, Vice Chairman David Bidwell,

Regular Member George Nickerson, and Alternate Ann Harford Remote Attendance: Regular Members Sean Dwyer and James Gage

ABSENT:

Regular Members Robert Zielfelder and Laurie Burstein, and Alternate

Jessica Fay

STAFF:

In-Person: Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner and Nathaniel Trask, Recording

Clerk

**OTHERS** 

PRESENT:

Valerie Amsel, Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee Liaison

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Rebecca Quarno called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:08 PM.
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (On Non-Agenda Items): None

### **III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:**

- 1. Review Plan of Conservation & Development, Chapter 4-Conservation Strategies, Natural Resource Preservation. (*Distributed January 10, 2023*)
  - a. Draft Text Amendment to Section 7.14.3 Agricultural Special Permit Uses in Residential Zones, Pursuant to Recommendations from the Plan of Conservation and Development.

Ms. Houlihan introduced the draft regulation amendment put forth by the Economic Development Commission. Ms. Houlihan said there is some overlap with agricultural and economic development initiatives in the Plan of Conservation and Development. Commissioners were given examples for special permit uses that are implemented by other towns like Stafford, South Windsor, and Simsbury. Ms. Houlihan reviewed the draft text amendment with the commission, including reading through several of the changes that are proposed. When Ms. Houlihan read that "There shall be no on-street parking," Commissioner Harford asked who is going to regulate that. Ms. Houlihan answered that the parking restrictions would be in the special permit that is granted to the business and the zoning officer would have the right to enforce it. She added that when a business is looking to take part in an agricultural related use for their business, they must go in front of the Planning and Zoning Commission to be granted a special

permit and may be given certain limitations therein. A public hearing is also held where residents and neighbors can voice any concerns before any permit is granted.

Chairman Quarno and Vice Chairman Bidwell agreed that they were in favor of leaving the draft text amendment as is and were supportive of the changes.

BY CONSENSUS, THE COMMISSION SUPPORTED THE PROPOSED REGULATION AMENDMENT TO SECTION 7.14.3 OF ELLINGTON ZONING REGULATIONS FINDING THE PROPOSAL CONSISTENT WITH THE PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

- 2. Review Sustainable CT Certification Action Overview Worksheet Conservation Sections a. Report from Sustainable CT Review of Preliminary Certification Submittal.
  - 3.4 Develop an Open Space Plan
  - 3.5 Create a Natural Resource and Wildlife Inventory

Ms. Houlihan reiterated that the Ellington Sustainability Team has been meeting monthly. The group submitted 95 points for preliminary credit to Sustainable CT, and they received all the points they applied for. Sixty (60) points for 3.4, ten (10) points for 3.5, ten (10) points for 4.2, and five (5) points for 10.4. The town can earn an additional ten points if the natural resource and wildlife inventory is included on the town's website, so Ms. Houlihan will send them a link to the town's website where the inventory is already listed. Vice Chairman Bidwell expressed appreciation for the comments that were returned to the team. Commissioner Harford asked if this was the program where the town must get a total of 200 points. Ms. Houlihan answered that they must get 200 points minimum with one item in each of the 12 different categories to qualify for the bronze certification. The team is looking to have a buffer of 50 points in the event something does not qualify. She added that 4.2 was for the promotion of cultural diversity from the library and that 10.4 was for the community garden from the recreation department.

b. 5.3 Develop Agriculture-Friendly Practice.

Ms. Houlihan said this part of the Sustainable CT certification mostly dealt with the farmland preservation program. She said she would provide them with the farm brochure, the 2007 bond authorization, and an itemized list of all the farms that have been preserved since the program was established. Sustainable CT wants an existing fund with a balance in it to spend towards developing agriculture-friendly practices, however the town currently does not have such a fund. Instead, the town has a bond authorization. Ms. Houlihan added that Oakridge Dairy's last farmland preservation easement will have to ask for a special appropriation from the Board of Selectmen. She believed this action was worth 20 points from Sustainable CT.

3. Report - Farmland Preservation Program.

Oakridge Dairy is still waiting for the Department of Agriculture to finish a property survey for the last farm. The town's portion of the preservation will be about \$49,000, which is less than 10% of the entire deal.

Ms. Houlihan said she contacted Elizabeth Moore at the Connecticut Farmland Trust about their newsletter. Elizabeth apologized on behalf of the Trust for not including Ellington in their acknowledgement about the last farmland easement secured for Oakridge Dairy. She said it was a good opportunity to reconnect with them and

mentioned there is significant concern from the farming organizations about solar energy taking over farmland. Farmland organizations are in favor of viable agrivoltaics, which is farmland that is used for both solar panels and farming activities.

4. Report - Open Space Preservation Program.

Nothing to report currently.

### IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. FY 23-24 Budget & Expenditure Update.

The Advertising and Printing budget shows a remaining balance of 150% due to encumbrance from the previous fiscal year. The only expense so far is for the services of the part-time recording clerk.

2. Approval of September 12, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOVED (DWYER) SECONDED (NICKERSON) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2023, AS WRITTEN.

- 3. Correspondence/Discussion:
  - a. Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee Monthly Agendas/Minutes.

Valerie Amsel, Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee Liaison, addressed the commission. The Boy Scouts moved and restabilized the bridge at Kimball. The trails at Metcalf and Crystal have been blazed. An Eagle Scout will be building picnic tables for Highlands. They are also looking to blaze Highlands and replace the bridge as well as getting a kiosk for that trail and Crystal. Commissioner Harford mentioned that Linda Anderson said at the last committee meeting that there are kits for building kiosks, however Ms. Amsel said the Trails Committee would not be able to afford it this year and they may not be large enough for their needs. Ms. Houlihan said she sent Ms. Anderson an email detailing an American Rescue Plan task force in town that is looking for more projects, and kiosks for the trails might be covered by this.

b. FEMA Notice dated September 27, 2023, for the Draft Risk Map Project for the Thames and Shetucket Watersheds.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is looking to update their Flood Insurance Rate Map, in partnership with the US Geological Survey. They are specifically focused on the Thames and Shetucket Watersheds. The database was first announced at the Workmap Review meeting held on June 20, 2023. John Colonese, Assistant Town Planner and Zoning and Wetlands Officer, received the new rate map and has been working with the town's GIS consultant to identify the properties to be removed or added to the flood plain. The Planning Department's goal is to create a list of the affected properties and find out from FEMA what the next steps are for notifying the property owners. Properties located within the flood plain might need flood insurance, however property owners have the option to do studies on their property and possibly do a letter of map amendment to refute their property being in a flood plain.

c. US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Letter dated September 25, 2023, for the Connecticut Statewide Important Farmland Criteria Update.

The US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service sent a letter to the town regarding important farmland soils. Ms. Houlihan believed they were trying to be more consistent with their criteria. She said the town has GIS layers for them already. A new version of the soil survey data was due to be published in September. The letter mentioned that 339,153 acres was changed to Farmland of Statewide importance in the state of Connecticut. These acres were previously designated as Locally Important Farmland in select towns including Ellington. The change to Farmland of Statewide importance supersedes the Locally Important Farmland designation, resulting in a more equitable designation across the state as these designations are used to assess eligibility and ranking for certain USDA program benefits.

### V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (HARFORD) SECONDED (BIDWELL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 8:05 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
JUDI MANFRE
LARRISSA BURKE
DONNA ALLEN
LINDSAY NEUBECKER
BILL SCHULTZ
TOM PALSHAW
DAN CHAMBERLIN
ROBERT BARONE
ANN HARFORD

Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee Regular Meeting Minutes October 4, 2023 Town Hall Annex

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>: Linda Anderson, Cynthia van Zelm, Deanna Wambolt-Gulick, Judi Manfre, Donna Allen, Tom Palshaw, Robert Barone, Ann Harford

<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>: Valerie Amsel, Larrissa Burke, Lindsay Neubecker, Bill Schultz, Dan Chamberlin

### I. Call to Order

Ms. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

### II. Citizens' Forum

There were no citizens in attendance.

### III. Approval of Minutes

### A. August 2, 2023

MOVED (VAN ZELM), SECONDED (WAMBOLT-GULICK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2, 2023 MEETING.

### B. September 6, 2023

There was one change on Page 4, C. Community Outreach, Item 2. Donna Allen was also in attendance at the Farmer's Market.

MOVED (MS. WAMBOLT-GULICK), SECONDED (MS. ALLEN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 MEETING.

### IV. Old Business

### A. Hockanum River Crew Report

Mr. Palshaw reported that the crew has been working to repair the bridge on the spur trail. They have set new anchors and extended the bridge by 12 feet. The excess water this summer has created problems. They may have to add additional anchors in the spring.

The crew has also replaced the broken boards on the bridge closer to the radio station. The highwater table has also created some problems, which will require further repair.

Water has also exposed roots along the trail.

Mr. Palshaw replaced the map in the kiosk at the Windermere Trail Head. The crew refreshed blazing marks as needed.

Ms. Anderson reported seeing metal maps at the Airline Trail in Pomfret. She is going to find information about the costs of obtaining metal trail maps.

### **B.** Conservation Commission Report

Ms. Amsel had informed Ms. Anderson that the most recent Conservation Commission meeting did not have anything pertaining to the Trails Committee.

### C. Girl Scout Project at Batz - Gold Award

Ms. Anderson reported that Laurel Fiendel has received her Gold Award.

### D. New Storage Unit - Painting

Ms. Manfre has not received a response from the Art Department at Ellington High School. Ms. Anderson will put a message in the next newsletter asking people in town if they would like to take on the project to paint the exterior of the storage unit.

### E. Bluebird Houses at Batz

Ms. Anderson reported that the bluebird houses are in the Committee's possession. Metal poles and brackets will be needed; hopefully they can be put in place at Batz before the ground freezes.

### F. Ellington Highlands Update - Eagle Scout Project

Ms. Amsel and Ms. Anderson walked with the Scout to show where they wanted to have the pads placed for the picnic tables.

Mr. Bidwell will allow the Scouts to access the trail from his property to bring the needed materials in.

The Scout is awaiting approval from the council to move forward with his project.

### G. Troop 96 Boy Scouts at Kimball

Six Scouts and three troop leaders/parents met with Ms. Anderson, Ms. Amsel, Mr. Palshaw and Mr. Schultz to realign the bridge and replace the stairs that had been washed out.

### H. Maps - Metcalf/Crystal Ridge

Ms. Anderson will send the newest map to the members to review before sending it to Rebecca at AppGeo for printing.

Ms. Manfre made signs for entrances to Crystal Ridge Trails.

Brush has been cleared, trails have all been properly blazed and it is ready to be mapped out.

Drainage stones will be needed for both ends of the new bridge and a solution will be needed to deal with the swampy area near the Quartz Trail bridge. Ms. Amsel had looked into mats that are made for that purpose, but they are expensive. Paving stones may be an option.

The continued accumulation of trash and pallets needs to be addressed. Ms. Anderson will ask if the Scouts might want to take on that project.

The stolen signs on Zack's Trail and the Quartz Trail will not be replaced.

### V. New Business

Ms. Anderson will be contacting Lisa Houlihan to inquire about the possibility of applying for grants to buy kiosk kits.

### VI. Subcommittee Reports

### A. Treasurer

- 1. The Committee's 2024 budget was reduced from \$3300 to \$3185 for tech equipment; the printing budget was reduced from \$600 to \$310.
- 2. Ms. Anderson will buy candy for the Committee's table at Trail of Treats; Ms. Amsel has purchased a wagon for hauling materials.

### B. Maintenance

1. Metcalf – Boundary Signs/Cleaning

Ms. Anderson and Ms. Manfre put up the rest of the boundary signs at Metcalf and cleaned some of the blue trail. Ms. Amsel and Ms. Anderson changed the peach blazes to white and cleaned the rest of the blue trail.

The Public Works Department cleared a tree that had fallen.

While on the trail, Ms. Amsel and Ms. Anderson met a local citizen (Sue Provost) who walks the trail regularly. Ms. Amsel asked if they would consider being a steward for the trail and they agreed to do so.

2. Batz – Cleaning/Bird Houses/Invasive Removal/Bins/Back Field Mowing Ms. Anderson and Ms. Amsel cut back brush and cleaned the trails prior to the 3 Foragers event.

Ms. Anderson would like to finish cleaning the multi-flora fields this fall.

There has been a change with the mowing schedule in the field behind the amphitheater. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Amsel observed that the autumn olives (invasives) have crept into the field. Public Works was asked to mow the perimeter, but they will mow the entire field to try to contain the invasive plants.

Ms. Anderson would like to get the educational gardens mulched before the winter. She will look into getting mulch.

### 3. Kimball

Public Works took care of a tree that had fallen.

4. Crystal Ridge – Blazing/Litter and Weed-Brush Control

Ms. Anderson will speak with Mr. Modzelewski about putting gates at the two entrances to the Crystal Ridge Trails.

5. Ellington Highlands – Cleaning/Replacement Bridge/Blazing/Boundary Signs – High School Group?

Ms. Anderson stated that Ellington Highlands desperately needs cleaning, boundary signs and blazing. Mr. Schultz is a mentor for an environmental group at EHS. He may get some students involved in doing some maintenance of that trail.

### C. Community Outreach

1. 3 Foragers at Batz – September 23<sup>rd</sup> (Donna Allen)

Ms. Allen reported that the 3 Foragers led a group of 20 citizens on the Batz trails, identifying numerous edible plants and explaining which parts were edible, when the best time to forage for them and even shared some ideas how to incorporate them into your meals.

- 2. Ginny Apple Talk on Fishers 6:30 pm, September  $19^{th}$  Ms. Anderson reported that the talk was well attended (approximately 15 people) and said it was very informative.
  - 3. Trail of Treats October 23<sup>rd</sup> (rain date 10/24) Members to help Lions Club on day of event/set up and work booth

The Lions Club expects 45 vendors at the event. Ms. Anderson has volunteered to assist on the Friday prior to the event to help map out the vendor spaces. Rachel Dearborn and her Central CT University survey class will be there to paint the outlines for the vendor spaces.

Ms. Manfre and Ms. Allen will help with the set-up of the Trails Committee booth, and Ms. Amsel, Ms. Wambolt-Gulik and Ms. van Zelm will come later to help.

Ms. Anderson reported that the Boy Scouts have agreed to have the entire troop there to help wherever they are needed.

4. Ginny Apple Talk on Bats – October 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm at Library Ms. Anderson reported that Ginny Apple will present a talk about bats.

### VII. Adjournment

MOVED (VAN ZELM), SECONDED (ALLEN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING AT 7:38 PM.

Prepared by Donna Allen; submitted by \_

Julia Connor