

**Preston Conservation and Agricultural Commission
Preston Town Hall
Monday, September 23, 2019
7:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Piszczek called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2. Roll Call

Regular Members

Gary Piszczek, Chairman
Matthew Snurkowski, Vice Chairman
Susan Mattern, Secretary – excused
Lynwood Crary – excused
Margaret Gibson
Ted Zajac

Alternates

Roberta Charpentier - seated
Sandy Pimentel - absent

Recorder

Roberta Charpentier

Chairman Piszczek seated R. Charpentier

3. Approval of the August 26, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes.

A motion was made by M. Snurkowski and seconded by T. Zajac to approve the August 26, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

All in favor. Motion carries.

4. Comments from the Public

None

5. Communications

a) Letter dated September 3, 2019 to Gary Piszczek from CT Land Conservation Council regarding “thank you” for recent membership contribution of \$150.00.

b) Audubon Conservation news, Autumn 2019 (to be passed around).

c) Connecticut Wildlife, July/August 2019 (to be passed around).

6. Public Hearings

None

7. Old Business

a) Clustered Zoning Regulations Farm Dating Program/Diane Hansen, Community Based Project.

S. Mattern will contact Diane Hanson to make plans for delivering the pumpkins, etc.

b) Hniatuk & Grossman properties – future use.

M. Snurkowski will putt the GPS points on a map.

c) State Hospital Development.

Manafort Brothers are currently working at EB but will return to the Hospital property.

d) Management update letter for Mrs. Przyborowski.

Chairman Piszczek and M. Gibson will compose and send a letter to Mrs. Przyborowski.

e) Request of returning budget surplus to the Open Space Fund.

Chairman Piszczek and R. Charpentier attended a BoF meeting and made this request. The BoF was receptive.

f) Sue Nylén and having annual conservation/outdoors event in memory of her son, Justin.

Sue Nylén presently has another commitment on Monday evenings, but will try to attend a meeting in January.

Chairman Piszczek suggested having a trail clean-up day every year in Justin's name.

g) Tri-Town Preserve Contribution

Chairman Piszczek will attend a BoS meeting to discuss.

Preston Conservation and Agricultural Commission: Tri-Town Preserve Contribution
Through the efforts of the Avalonia Land Trust, 409 acres, known as the Tri-Town Preserve, has been permanently preserved as a critical Connecticut trap rock ridge. Three towns will benefit from Avalonia's efforts, Preston, Griswold and North Stonington. While most of the acreage exists in Griswold and North Stonington, the 32.9 acres in Preston allows access to the entire preserve. To protect this property from pending development, a bridge loan was procured by Avalonia because the open space grants would not cover the entire purchase price. Therefore, the Preston Conservation and Agricultural Commission recommends the transfer of \$5,000 from its open space fund as a reasonable contribution to assist in repaying the bridge loan that has enabled the preservation of this property

8. Boots on the Ground – paddles in the water report.

a) Why did the beaver cross the road?

Public works opened the baffle and it drained. Chairman Piszczek closed it again.

9) New Business

a) Prepare for joint land use commission

Joint meeting will take place in December around the State Hospital development and anything else around land use in the Town of Preston.

10. Meanderings

M. Snurkowski wondered if the CAC could use money in their budget to hire a summer intern to maintain some of the trails in Town.

Chairman Piszczek stated that he will bring that up at a BoS meeting.

11. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

All in favor. Motion carries

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Charpentier
recorder