

**Preston Conservation and Agricultural Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 25, 2022
Preston Town Hall
7:30 pm.**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Piszczek called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

2. Roll Call

Regular Members

Gary Piszczek, Chairman
Matthew Snurkowski, Vice Chairman
Lynwood Crary
Margaret Gibson - absent
Sandy Pimentel
Ted Zajac

Alternates

Roberta Charpentier
Rebecca Hayes - seated

Chairman Piszczek seated Rebecca Hayes

3. Approval of the June 27, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes

A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by T. Zajac to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2022 as presented.

All in favor. Motion carries.

4. Comments from the Public

None

5. Communications

None

6. Public Hearing

None

7. Old Business

a) Clustered Zoning Regulations

Chairman Piszczek introduced the concept of an agrihood. A large community garden accessible to the houses surrounding it.

b) State Hospital Development

Clean-up is in process.

c) Beaver bumper report

FYI

Great Blue Heron's do eat turtles.

d) Petroglyph in Preston, CT

M. Snurkowski stated that he will look at it this week

e) Tri-Town Trail and Crosswalk

Tri-Town Trail is in discussion with DOT and the Town in order to begin the process.

f) Eversource – Mary Dora Woodland parking area.

Eversource has leveled and put stone down at the parking lot.

g) The right to Farm Ordinance

M. Snurkowski has not completed

CAC

h) POCD

Chairman Piszczek spoke with Kathy Warzecha about using Open space funds to purchase development rights and she was in favor of that. K. Warzecha suggested asking the BoF if they would bond money for development rights instead of using Open Space funds.

Chairman Piszczek noted that there is concern over the route 164 corridor because the Watson Farm was sold.

Chairman Piszczek noted that \$100,000 for farm equipment exemption is outdated and should be increased to at least \$200,000.

i) BMP – Farms & Watercourses

Chairman Piszczek will look into including Best Management Practices with the right to Farm Ordinance.

j) Blue Camp Hearing

Attorney Heller appealed Planning & Zoning’s decision. Discussion between Attorney Heller and the Town’s attorneys are taking place.

8. Boots on the Ground – paddles in the water report, Amos Lake Association.

Pat Monahan not present.

9. New Business

A motion was made by G. Piszczek and seconded by L. Crary to waive the agenda by adding funding request by Terri Eickel, Avalonia.

All in favor. Motion carries.

- **Terri Eickel, Avalonia Funding Request**

Terri Eickel, Avalonia Land Conservancy Director of Development and Programming explained that Avalonia would like to purchase ~40 acres on Doolittle Road of White Cedar swamp and Hemlock swamp.

T. Eickel noted that it is important to preserve critical wetland habitat.

Bob Chapin, Preston Committee Chair of Avalonia stated that Preston’s Boy Scout Troop has camped on this property for many years which Avalonia will continue to allow.

M. Snurkowski stated that his feeling is that the CAC should contribute because 40 acres is being protected.

Chairman Piszczek noted that it needs stewardship.

A motion was made by M. Snurkowski and seconded by L. Crary to approve that the CAC contribute \$7500 from the Open Space Fund towards the Avalonia Land Conservancy purchase of the 42-acre parcel 19-0-D001-48 on Doolittle Road and owned by the Doolittle family for conservation protection in Preston.

All in favor. Motion carries.

10. Meanderings


None

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

CAC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "RT Charpentier".

Roberta Charpentier
Preston Recording Secretary