

**Preston Conservation and Agricultural Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, October 24, 2022  
Preston Town Hall  
7:30 pm.**

**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  
Lynwood Crary  
Margaret Gibson  
Sandy Pimentel  
Ted Zajac

**Alternates**

Roberta Charpentier  
Rebecca Hayes

**3. Approval of the September 26, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes**

**A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by T. Zajac to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2022 as presented.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

**4. Comments from the Public**

No Public present

**5. Communications**

- a) Email: September 27, 2022: Connecticut Land Conservation Council, Monthly Review.
- b) Email: October 5, 2022: The Connecticut Audubon Society; update.
- c) Email: October 5, 2022: CACIWC 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Environmental Conference Information.
- d) Email: October 7, 2022: Connecticut Land Conservation Council, Weekly eNews.
- e) Email: October 11, 2022: Connecticut Land Conservation Council, Weekly eNews.
- f) Email: October 13, 2022: Connecticut Land Conservation Council, #Love Your CT Land Trust – Expanding People’s Access to Trails and Fun.
- g) *Connecticut Wildlife*: magazine July/August 2022 issue.
- h) Email: October 18, 2022: Connecticut Land Conservation Council, Weekly eNews.
- i) Email: October 19, 2022: The Connecticut Audubon Society 2022 Annual Report.
- j) Norwich State Hospital property map (hard copies will be available at the meeting).

**6. Public Hearing**

None

**7. Old Business**

**a) Clustered Zoning Regulations – Agri hood Planning**

Chairman Piszczek noted that he added Agri Hood Planning to Clustered Zoning Regulations, and K. Warzecha said Planning & Zoning would like to meet with the CAC to discuss.

**b) State Hospital Development**

The PRA and Mohegan Tribe have agreed on an amendment to the Property Disposition and Development Agreement. A Town Meeting was held to vote on its approval on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Once it is approved the clean-up will resume.

**c) Beaver bumper report**

None

**d) Petroglyph in Preston, CT**

M. Snurkowski noted that because of all the rain it is under water again.

**e) Tri-Town Trail and Crosswalk**

Because the Town plans to pursue the project Poquetanuck Village Traffic Calming Project which will include a crosswalk, the TTT may assist with design but let the Town take care of the crosswalk.

**f) Eversource – Mary Dora Woodland parking area.**

Chairman Piszczek noted that there is a problem with ATVs and motorcycles at Mary Dora Woodlands. Chairman Piszczek thought the Woodlands would be the perfect place for cross country skiing.

**g) The right to Farm Ordinance**

M. Snurkowski presented a Draft Ordinance. After discussing, CAC Members decided to read it over and changes will be discussed at the next CAC meeting.

**h) POCD**

Chairman Piszczek noted that the watercourse map from Pat Monahan will be helpful.

**i) BMP – Farms & Watercourses**

Will discuss after right to Farm Ordinance is completed

**j) Avalonia Land Conservancy – Doolittle Land Acquisition**

Chairman Piszczek stated that this acquisition has been put on hold

**k) Ordinance for tax exemption for farm equipment increased to \$200,000**

L. Cray wrote the ordinance and sent it to the First Selectwoman.

**l) LOTCIP Grant – Poquetanuck Village Traffic Calming Plan**

Will discuss under New Business

**m) Pumpkin Program**

Chairman Piszczek will donate ~50 pumpkins to Parks & Recreation for Trunk or Treat.

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

Pat Monahan stated that the final paddle was the Full Moon Paddle. Next year the ALA will hold a Spring paddle and the moon light paddle because there were not enough signed up for the July and August paddle.

The ALA did send recommendations to the Town Planner for the POCD.

**9. New Business**

**a) Poquetanuck Cove Partnership**

Chairman Piszczek stated that he'd like to combine the Poquetanuck Village Program with the State Hospital property and once the Hospital Property is turned over to the Mohegan Tribe, then the CAC sit down with the Tribe and discuss the property. Land owners have the final say in what will happen to the land.

Chairman Piszczek stated that he talked to Kathy Warzecha, town Planner about S. Pimentel's suggestion to turn a particular area into open space and Kathy was receptive to the idea.

Chairman Piszczek stated that he would like the Tribe to keep the east side of Route 12 as open space.

**b) Route 164 – Scenic or Speedway**

Discussion on the large amount of trees cut along Route 164 which is designated as a scenic highway.

Chairman Piszczek noted that the 1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman didn't think there is any recourse.

Ted Zajac stated it is D.O.T.

Pat Monahan stated she was told that the cutting is so more sunlight hits the road during the winter, to help de-ice and melt the snow.

M. Gibson suggested asking that they plant indigenous bushes where the trees were cut.

R. Hayes noted that there are 2 Conservation Commissions in the State that have put in 2 Native Plant Ordinances for new town plantings.

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M. Snurkowski stated that should be in the POCD.

**c) Agricultural Preservation Fund**

K. Warzecha is going to present to the BoF the request for funding. A stand alone fund to be used when someone wants to sell their development rights.

Chairman Piszczek wants the CAC to attend a workshop with the BoF.

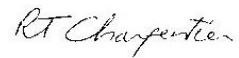
**10. Meanderings**

None

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Roberta Charpentier  
Preston Recording Secretary