## Conservation Commission of the Town of Litchfield Land Use Office, 80 Doyle Road, PO Box 12, Bantam, CT 06750

Regular Members Mark Austin, Chair John Baker Charles Dyson Cleve Fuessenich, Vice Chair Jessica Lunan Jordan Richards

Alternates

## Draft Minutes REGULAR MEETING 24 February 2015 7 PM, Bantam Town Hall Annex, Bantam, CT

Call to order, roll call, changes to agenda......7:00

Members in attendance: Austin, Baker, Dyson, Fuessenich, Lunan, Richards

Members absent: none

Public in attendance: Karen Huber, John Cox

- 1. Appointment of Alternates: n/a
- 2. Approval of Minutes November 25, 2015, Motion to approve as amended by Baker seconded by Dyson. Unanimous approval.
- 3. Public Comment: none
- 4. Open Space Acquisition Project

Lunan notified the Commission of the Middlebury Plan of Conservation and Development. It was recently revised and submitted to the Middlebury Planning and Zoning Commission on February 3, 2015. Litchfield is due to do ours within the next year or two. We should consider putting together suggestions.

By creating the document for open space, we provide a basis for considering property. The Commission discussed property restrictions. The discussion was around the perception of protection, liability, and long term cost of owning the property.

Richards was working on the habitat section of the project. Copies were handed out electronic copies will be forwarded for distribution. The Commission discussed the factors. Be consistent in all sections with reduction points. Would follow state guidelines, the state endangered list and the species map. The document will need to have provisions for expert testimony. The Litchfield and Southbury land trust has an internal scoring like this.

The format Richards used is very clear for discussions. The definitions will be broken out into its own section.

- 5. Natural and Community Resource Inventory Project no new information.
- 6. Old Business none
- New Members
  John Cox is interested in becoming a member. Karen Huber is only representing the
  Litchfield Land Trust. She is not a Litchfield resident therefore not eligible.
- 8. New Business none
- 9. Correspondence
- 10. Review of Action Items
  - Continuation of sections for acquisition project.

The Purpose of the Conservation Commission is to develop and conserve natural resources, to conduct research into the current utilization and future possible utilization of land areas of the town, and to keep an index of all open areas, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas.

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Next regularly scheduled meeting: March 24, 2015