

# 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

John Cox

## Alternates

## Draft Minutes REGULAR MEETING

24 March 2015

7 PM, Bantam Town Hall Annex, Bantam, CT

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

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

Members absent: none

Public in attendance: Lance Beckley, Karen Huber,

1. Appointment of Alternates: n/a
2. Approval of Minutes – February 24, 2015, Correction of November's date. Motion to approve as amended by Baker seconded by Dyson. Unanimous approval.

3. Public Comment: none

4. Open Space Acquisition Project

Lunan updated the size, agriculture, and natural state sections to match the format proposed by Richards in the February meeting. There still are a few personalities to the current draft. The Commission will need to look at the tense.

Fuessenich lead a discussion on the definition of open space. Criteria ideas:

- Existing vs proposed
- Active use such as golf courses. Should this be considered
- Land trust definitions of open space – permanently protected
- Different people have different definition of open space.
- “Not built on, should remain unbuilt on”
- Wording of “open space” vs preserved for certain uses
- Passive recreation vs active use properties
- Managed vs unmanaged properties
- Legal definition and land use definition
  - Subdivision Regulations
  - Planning and Zoning Regulations
  - CT General Statutes
  - USDA regulations (has a points system)
  - Norwell MA criteria has a definition [www.townofnorwell.net](http://www.townofnorwell.net)

Huber brought in a checklist from Norwell MA which has an Open Space Criteria points system. We should put a works cited portion so there is a reference to a standard or source. Should also have an appendix/glossary with definitions, references, and abbreviations.

5. Natural and Community Resource Inventory Project – no new information.

6. Old Business – none

7. New Members

Lance Beckley is interested and was found qualified as a builder to show a diversity in the opinion of the built environment.

*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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- 8. New Business – none
- 9. Correspondence
  - Huber brought some Litchfield Land Trust information for the Commission to view. All of the brochures are available on the Land Trust’s website and the Litchfield Information booth on the green.
- 10. Review of Action Items
  - Continuation of sections for acquisition project.
- 11. Adjournment .....8:07

Next regularly scheduled meeting: April 28, 2015