

**MINUTES**  
ENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING in the Enfield Room  
820 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT 06082  
Tuesday, April 11, 2023-7:30PM

RECEIVED  
ENFIELD TOWN CLERK

2023 APR 18 PM 2:07

Shida M Bailey

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman William Cote called the meeting to order at 8:25 PM.

**2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Chairman William Cote, Commissioners Karen LaPlante, Timothy McGuire, Kathleen Vose, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Nancy Wyzga, and Michael Dynia.

Members Absent: Phil Kober

Also present: Ms. Driver, Assistant Planner

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

a) March 14, 2023

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to add the minutes from February 14, 2023, to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga.

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to approve the minutes for March 14, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Dynia.

Discussion: Commissioner LaPlante stated item 6 third line, Mike is discussing the Scantic River Watershed, and Kristin discussed her work, the correct name is Kirsten.

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to approve the minutes for March 14, 2023, as corrected, seconded by Commissioner Dynia.

**A vote by a show of hands 7-0-0 passed unanimously.**

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to approve the minutes from February 14, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga.

Discussion: The bottom of page 2, paragraph did not make sense. "Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall made a motion to request that planning and zoning commission, town council, director of planning for the town of Enfield and the Town Manager state regulations require that we include the areas of 490 open space designation be included in the POCD, seconded by Commissioner Vose." The intention was to include the 490 open space designation to include the whole town as an area available for 490 open spaces. The Commissioners agreed to add a foot note for this paragraph.

Chair Cote stated the foot note is the intention of the discussion.

**Footnote: The intention was to send a letter to the planning and zoning, town council and town manager asking that the 490 provision for open space includes the entire town of Enfield.**

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to approve the minutes of February 14, 2023, as amended with the footnote, seconded by Commissioner McGuire.

**A vote by a show of hands 7-0-0 passed unanimously.**

**4. Public Communication:** Chair Cote stated that Karen gave him an item for Public Communication. The Aquarian Water Company located in Bridgeport sent a letter to Conservation Commission asking them to nominate a group or individual for environmental purposes for an award.

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to nominate Dr. Kirsten Martin for the Stewards of Environment Award, seconded by Commissioner Wyzga.

**A vote by a show of hands 7-0-0 passed unanimously.**

**5. Correspondence:** Commissioner LaPlante stated that Joanne's tree that they planted has been destroyed.

Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall made a motion to submit a written request to the Town Manager requesting funds to replace the tree in memory of Joanne Kneiss at the senior center, seconded by Commissioner LaPlante.

**A vote by a show of hands 7-0-0 passed unanimously.**

**6. Reports of Officers, Committees, and Staff:** Commissioner Dynia stated that the Enfield Watershed Committee had a zoom meeting and they discussed the race which went well and Commissioner Dynia thanked the Commissioners for their help in volunteering.

**7. Unfinished Business:**

**a.) List of Natural Resources**

Chairman Cote showed on the screen some research that he has been doing on natural resources. The information that he showed was directly from the old POCD. He asked if we take the information as it is from this document, do we have to footnote? The information they take from this source will have to be footnoted and cited. The Commissioners agreed to take part of it, not necessarily word for word.

**b.) Open Space**

Ms. Driver stated that there is no new status on the GIS. The GIS is still being upgraded. She has not received any new updates from the IT department.

**8. New Business:**

**a.) PA490 Open Space**

Chair Cote read the meeting minutes from the Planning and Zoning meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup> regarding the 490 open space.

Commissioner LaPlante read the letter from the Conservation Commission that she presented at the Planning and Zoning meeting.

The Commissioners discussed adding a list of open spaces (even if old) to the website. Ms. Driver discussed that she received an example of an open space ordinance from the town of Willington.

Chair Cote said that as a group they have made progress. People are starting to listen to them.

Commissioner LaPlante made a motion to add a new item to the agenda under New Business, Discussion of the Nathan Hale School, seconded by Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall.

**A vote by a show of hands 5-2-0 passed unanimously.**

**b.) Nathan Hale School**

Commissioner LaPlante stated the town is talking about getting rid of Nathan Hale School. It's 6.17 acres, not including the land across the street. It was said in the 824 referrals to planning and zoning that basically the guy wants the gymnasium and talking about demolishing the rest of the school. The land is appraised at \$597,000 without the buildings. The total value of the property is 5.1 million.

Ms. Driver suggested that since there is a lack of information that they should research and discuss it in detail at the next meeting.

Commissioner LaPlante wants to send a letter to the Town Council asking to keep this land.

Commissioner Cote suggested to her that she write down her thoughts and send them to the group and they can work on putting something together.

**9. Next Meeting Date: May 9, 2023**

**10. Adjournment:**

Commissioner Wyzga made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Vose.

**A vote by a show of hands 7-0-0 passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM

Prepared by: Recording Secretary, Sandie Barone