TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT

Town Hall
5866 Main Street
Trumbull, Connecticut 06611

Trumbull Conservation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
7:00 pm
Long Hill Conference Room, Town Hall
Amended Minutes

Present: Tim Coughlin, Sara Laden, Kate Giannelli, Alex Rydelek and Dean Lindsey (entered at 7:20 pm)

Absent: John Massari, Mark Schroeder

Also Present: Janet Epstein and Christine Dobi

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mr. Coughlin.

Past Minutes
Ms. Giannelli motioned to approve the minutes of April 29, 2026; seconded by Ms. Laden. Approved with one abstention from Mr. Rydelek.

New Business

1. Janet Epstein, 76 Old Dike Road – discussed Public Act No. 26-61 – An Act Concerning Riparian Areas recently signed by the Governor; goes into effect July 1. She was interested to know if this would have any bearing on what the Conservation Commission has been doing in this respect. She noted the DEEP is hiring an employee to train individuals on the new legislation and felt the impact could be significant. The Commission will review the information and discuss at the next meeting.
2. Mr. Coughlin received an email from the Chairman of the Newtown Conservation Commission regarding the town's recent passage of legislation for neonicotinoids for rat bates/traps. She requested to speak to the Commission regarding the process. Mr. Coughlin noted the State is working on this but nothing was passed in the last legislative session. The Newtown legislation covers municipal properties not residential or pest control companies. The Commission will review the information and invite the Newtown Conservation Commission Chair to the next meeting.
3. Mr. Coughlin received an email regarding the conditions in Trumbull Center and if the Commission knew the status. He will gather more information but felt Engineering and IWWC would be on top of the conditions.

Old Business
Mr. Lindsey updated the following via email:

1. Pollinator Give Away Program – A program is not planned at this time.
2. Presentation of Miyawaki Method – Mrs. Lemay has agreed to be part of a program discussing this topic in the fall; need to set a date. She also noted the potential for the Aspetuck Land Trust to manage parcels in town.
3. Farmer's Market – Christine Dobi volunteered to help with the market.
4. Vine Team – will be working at the Nature Center Saturday, May 30, from 9-11 am. Mr. Lindsey will walk the property with the Director to see where they need to concentrate their efforts.
5. State Forester Evaluation of Open Space – Mr. Coughlin is still waiting to hear back about a date for Beach Memorial Park.
6. Website Information – Ms. Giannelli noted she put the tree information on the site and cleaned up the information that was no longer pertinent. Looking for additional information to add. It was suggested to include information regarding ticks and tick testing which is available at the Trumbull Health Department. They send it to CAES for testing; cost $5. The Vine Team event and Farmer's Market will be put on FaceBook. Information will also be posted regarding barberry and ticks. Mr. Coughlin noted the Greenwich Conservation Commission has a very nice display in their Town Hall with information for the public.

Mr. Lindsey entered the meeting at 7:20 pm. He discussed in more detail the potential of the Aspetuck Land Trust managing parcels in town. It is important for the Conservation Commission to be involved in the discussions regarding this possibility. It is unknown what the structure would be as there are many aspects that would need to be discussed.

Mr. Lindsey elaborated on the planned program at the Library with Mrs. Lemay. It was felt the program should include several topics of interest with Mrs. Lemay as one presenter. The community room at the Library will be reserved. The Commission would be responsible for dissemination of the information to the public. It was suggested to invite Senator Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox and State Representative David Rutigliano as both have shown an interest in environmental topics. Mrs. Lemay will be contacted for a specific date and a program will be developed.

Review and Discussion of IWWC Applications
It was noted there are several applications with tree removal and two properties with public hearings. Plum Tree Lane is on hold; both Easton and Trumbull denied the project. Several trees have been taken down in front of the high school for the new parking area.

Farmer's Market
Additional discussion was held regarding specifics of the Market on June 18 including handouts, sign-ups, plant give away, etc.

Adjournment
There being no further business, Ms. Laden motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm; seconded by Mr. Lindsey. Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk