MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
October 14, 2025
7:30 PM - TOWN HALL-ENFIELD ROOM
820 Enfield St, Enfield, CT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cote called the meeting to order at 7:48pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: William Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlate, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga

Absent: None

Also present was Assistant Town Planner; Stephen Hiney, Recording Secretary; Rebecca Jones and guest Megan Kelley.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. July 8, 2025

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante **seconded:** Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall to approve the July 8, 2025 meeting minutes**.**

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Paul Cote, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose No: None Abstain: Michael Dynia, Nancy Wyzga.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Kelley reported she attended the most recent Town Council meeting and spoke about prioritizing developing parcels that are currently unused or underused.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/STAFF REPORT

Commissioner LaPlante shared information regarding a tree initiative in Suffield.

7. APPROVAL OF INVOICES/OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

None.

8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND STAFF

The Economic Development Commission held a Business Breakfast recently, which Chair Cote attended. He shared information related to automation-related employment opportunities. The TIF Committee has been meeting regularly and discussing a facade improvement program.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **ECC Goals for 2025**

- Create a list of potential or valued open space parcels and establish a process for submitting open space parcels to Town Council for consideration and purchase
- Search for and submit a grant request for natural resources
- Identify a location in town that would benefit from planting trees
- Identify vernal pools in Enfield
- Elm/Shaker Community Garden project
- Creating a trail map

The commissioners discussed obtaining a college intern to assist in many of these projects. Commissioner Wyzga requested that Economic and Community Development Director Aaron Markavitch be contacted and asked how he was able to find interns. Commissioner Pfiefer-Hall asked that he be invited to a meeting. Mr. Hiney noted that some goals would be difficult to complete without funding. Commissioner LaPlante recommended reviewing UConn's NEMO and CLEAR Mapping Program. It was noted that there needs to be a new GIS system before working on identifying natural resources. The commissioners agreed to table the trail map goal until next year.

B. List of Open Space

MOTION by: William Cote **seconded:** Michael Dynia to enter into executive session for real estate matters.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

Executive sessions began at 8:12pm.

The meeting resumed at 8:25pm. No votes were taken and no decisions were made.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Open Space purchase recommendations to the Town Council

MOTION by: William Cote **seconded:** Michael Dynia to present open space purchases to the Town of Enfield.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

B. Election of Officers

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante **seconded:** Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall to elect BIll Cote as Chair and TIF Committee representative; Karen LaPlante as Vice Chair; Kathleen Vose as Secretary; and Gretchen Pfeifer Hall as the Economic Development Commission representative.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

C. Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante **seconded:** Nancy Wyzga to adopt the 2026 meeting schedule as presented.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

D. Review of By-Laws

Commissioner LaPlante discussed a reference to Chapter 2, Section 1 as the Town Clerk noted that it should be Section 38, Article 34. This is where the Conservation Commission's objectives are located and should be revised for continuity. Mr. Hiney was unsure about changing what Commissioner LaPlante suggested, so this was tabled to the next meeting.

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante **seconded:** Kathleen Vose to table the review of bylaws.

UPON A SHOW OF HANDS VOTE, the Chair declared the motion approved. Yes: William Cote, Michael Dynia, Karen LaPlante, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kathleen Vose, Nancy Wyzga No: None Abstain: None.

E. CACIWC

The commissioners discussed who would be attending CACIWC.Commissioner LaPlante asked Mr. Hiney to bring hard copies of the POCD to the next meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

A. November 12, 2025

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by: Nancy Wyzga, seconded: Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion adopted unanimously, and the meeting stood adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Vose
Secretary

Rebecca Jones
Recording Secretary