



**MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
March 10, 2026
7:30 PM - Town Hall-ENFIELD ROOM
820 Enfield St, Enfield, CT**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cote called the meeting to order at 7:40pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: William Paul Cote, Karen LaPlante, Michael Dynia, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Dean Syed, Nancy Wyzga, Jeremy Dugas, Megan Kelley

Absent: Kathleen Vose

Also Planning and Zoning Commission liaison; Christian D'Antonio, Assistant

Present: Town Planner; Stephen Hiney and Recording Secretary; Rebecca Jones.

Chair Cote seated Commissioner Dugas as as voting member.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 13, 2026

MOTION by: Karen LaPlante **seconded:** Michael Dynia to approve the January 13, 2026 meeting minutes.

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

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/STAFF REPORT

An email was received on March 2nd, 2026 from Dennis Quinn, herpetologist. Mr. Quinn created a draft memo regarding survey initiatives in the Enfield area to identify the Eastern Spadefoot. A list of specific locations where they may be located in Enfield was shared. Commissioner Kelley is attending the Connecticut Land Conservation Conference and will share her findings at the next meeting. Commissioner D'Antonio shared information related to a site plan application for wetlands restoration at First Avenue. Commissioner Dynia asked Mr. Hiney about a public hearing notice he saw on Post Office Road.

7. APPROVAL OF INVOICES/OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

None.

8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEES AND STAFF

Economic Development Commission is working on Enfield's first Restaurant Week to be held during early October. Commissioner Pfeifer-Hall shared details related to upcoming America 250 events. They are also working on a small business passport program to run throughout the fall months. The Scantic River Watershed Association will be holding the Spring Splash on March 28, 2026. Commissioner Dynia stated that the Superbowl Hike was canceled due to inclement weather. Commissioner Dynia will be on Channel 15 on behalf of the Watershed Association. The TIF Committee is working on a facade program for downtown business properties. No applications have been received. Mr. Hiney shared an update related to the GIS system update.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

A. ECC Goals

- 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
- Creating a trail map
- Identify vernal pools

Chair Cote stated that he met with Commissioner Kelley and the subcommittee created a Table of Contents which lists all the types of natural resources to be inventoried, including categories like streams and vernal pools. They reviewed surrounding towns' natural resources list for reference. There has been no update related to identifying vernal pools in Enfield. This will become easier once the GIS system has been updated. Commissioner LaPlante shared a flyer created by the Town of Bolton to inform their residents about vernal pools. The Commission will discuss the trail maps at a later date. Currently, the only trail maps in their possession are of the Scantic River area.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Cote shared that he has been in contact with Aaron Marcavitch, Director of Economic Development regarding a community garden on the corner of Elm Street and Shaker Road. Mr. Marcavitch recommended that the Conservation Commission submit a letter of request to the Town Council. Commissioner LaPlante stated that this has not gone forward in the past due to concerns surrounding contaminated soil. The area has not been tested in over fifteen years. Commissioner Wyzga confirmed that this would not be a raised bed garden.

MOTION by: Dean Syed **seconded:** Nancy Wyzga to send a letter of request to the Town Council related to the proposed community garden on Shaker and Elm Street.

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

11. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

A. April 14, 2026

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 8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Vose

Secretary

Rebecca Jones

Recording Secretary