

**Town of Chester
Conservation Commission
Business Meeting
February 27, 2023
6:00 PM
Approved Minutes**

Broadcast on Channel 20 and streamed on Government (cablecast.tv) – click “Watch Now”

Members present:

Chairman Victor Chouinard
Kristina Snyder
Deb Munson
Ted Broadwater
Nick Tranquillo
Selectman Chuck Myette, Liaison

Members absent:

Rick Sibley
Kathleen Neff Ragsdale
Eric McGowan, Alternate

Guests present:

Daniel Broadwater
Chester PACT

I. Call to Order

Chair Chouinard called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

II. New Business

A. Approval to append lot 007-062-001 to the conservation easement for lots 007-62, 007-063 & 008-013 that has been previously approved by the Conservation Commission

Chairman Chouinard explained that this request is the result of the decision to tie in this Town-owned parcel with an existing easement that was approved at the February meeting, rather than creating a standalone easement. A survey exists on this parcel. It will be a standard forestry easement.

Mr. Tranquillo moved to append lot 007-062-001 to the other three parcels voted on at the February meeting. Ms. Munson seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor except Selectman Myette, who abstained in his role as Selectman. The motion passed 5-0-1.

B. Approval of a conservation easement for lot 008-016

Chairman Chouinard noted that this parcel is located on Ledge Road. The easement will be a standard forestry easement. Mr. Tranquillo noted that this land was purchased in 2017 with conservation funds, but no easement was placed on the property.

Mr. Tranquillo moved to attach an easement to parcel 008-016. Ms. Munson seconded the motion. A vote was taken. All were in favor except Selectman Myette, who abstained in his role as Selectman. The motion passed 5-0-1.

Mr. Tranquillo noted that ongoing survey work is taking place around these parcels.

C. PACT Town Forest video

Chairman Chouinard reported that PACT has invited the Conservation Commission to create a video to explain the Warrant Article proposing designation of Town-owned properties as Town Forest. Mr. Tranquillo noted that members of the Commission recently walked the land and that it is pristine property, with beautiful features.

Mr. Broadwater noted that the video would provide the opportunity to answer any questions that might be posed. There have been no questions yet, but residents have not received the Warrant Articles. Ms. Snyder suggested including information about the land's potential for recreational use and also an invitation to attend the Town Meeting.

Selectman Myette pointed out the Conservation Commission wants to protect the property as it stands now for the future. He noted the terrain is ideal for wildlife, but not for development. There is no additional cost involved in approving this Warrant Article.

Ms. Snyder suggested the video could be shared on the Town website and the Facebook page, and a link to it sent in response to any questions posed. Chairman Chouinard will create slides to include in the video, as well as using maps to describe the property.

III. Regular Business - N/A

IV. Plan Reviews - N/A

V. Miscellaneous Business - N/A

VI. Next meeting: March 13, 2023

VII. Adjourn

Ms. Snyder moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Broadwater seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Beth Haggeli, Recording Secretary