# Town of East Windsor Conservation Commission

#### **Minutes**

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022 Location: Zoom meeting

### Agenda

- I. CALL TO ORDER ZOOM meeting 7:31pm
- II. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM
  - 1. Attended by: Albert Grant, Donna Grant, Kurt Kebschull, Ruth Calabrese, Danielle Miller

Absent: Fran Neill

- III. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes not available for approval, vote was tabled

#### V. OLD BUSINESS

Kurt Kebschull is working on his project regarding comparison of Open Space from 1970 to today.

Gravel pit solar will begin operating in 2023. They have to satisfy concerns about protecting turtles and reclaiming the gravel pit.

Regarding Farms of 30+ acres with potential for preservation. A planned letter to Norton Farms LLC was based on a score on environmental value rather than farmland. So, the Dept. Of Ag. Purchase of Development Rights Program probably would not be appropriate. The letter should probably be amended and approached from a different angle. One possibility for preserving the property would be to purchase the property using a DEEP Open Space Grant.

Or they could approach the Land Trust if they had interest.

We should review the evaluations of 30+ acre properties and separate properties with environmental value from those with farmland value.

Public Outreach literature discussed.

Investigate what other successful towns are doing to preserve open space.

# Open Space Fund

Suggested to send a memo to Selectmen that money coming to the Town from solar panel installations could go into the Open Space Fund.

Also send memo that excess ARPA American Rescue Plan Act money could go to Open Space Fund or a particular project. Draft both memos before the next meeting.

Discussed map of Town properties.

# **MISCELLANEOUS**

1. General Discussion.

VI. REPORTS OF STAFF
VIX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

VII. ADJOURMENT 8:01 pm Motion by Kurt Kebschull, second Albert Grant.

Respectfully Submitted by Donna Grant, recording secretary