

TOWN OF MADISON, CT  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Meeting: Thursday, January 27, 2022, 7:30PM  
**Zoom Meeting**

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to order  
Meeting called to order at 7:34PM. Members present: Bouchard, Crawford, Cushing, Lewis, Uddin. Members absent: none. Others present: Walter Welsh, Hank Maguire
2. Review and approve minutes from November 22 and December 27, 2021 meetings: tabled
3. Call for additional agenda items/public comment: no additional items or comments
4. Meet Coastal Resiliency Commission members, presentation and discussion  
Walter Welsh and Hank Maguire gave a presentation on the Coastal Resources Commission which was formed November 2019. They started with 18 members but are down to 15. Their charge is to help Madison plan for sea level rise, climate change, flood risk and other coastal resource related issues, specifically addressing the projected sea level rise of 20 inches by 2050. They are looking at where can we shore up the shoreline and due to current development patterns, are playing defense. The goal is not to just tell people what to do but to work with them. They want to work with other agencies, particularly on assistance in evaluating projected impacts. The shoreline is a major focus, but the thinking applies to the entire town. They are working with the town's 2016 Coastal Resiliency Plan to make it more complete, looking at adaptation to sea level rise and climate change in terms of: protection, accommodation, retreat, and (potentially) abandonment. They have a dedicated page on the town's website and would like to work jointly with the conservation commission to promote both commissions' efforts.
5. Discuss Rockland Committee habitat restoration project  
Bouchard, Crawford and Uddin met Cecily Baran at Rockland on December 27 to hike to the proposed restoration site and discuss options for the restoration. The proposed site seems like an excellent candidate for restoration and the Conservation Commission will work further with the Rockland Committee on achieving their goals.
6. Discuss potential calendar of events for 2022  
Crawford requested the commission members to consider pre-planning for events for the coming year, with the idea of developing some new outreach events in addition to our existing ones (Green-up Cleanup, Bauer Park Festival). Some ideas that came forward included linking Arbor Day with Earth Day and Dark Skies Week, doing some invasive plant education in the spring, providing outreach on reducing pesticide, fertilizer and irrigation usage with a lawn pledge by Memorial Day, doing something around International Coast

Weeks in September, and having a booth at the Sip and Stroll and/or Sidewalk Sale events. Members were encouraged to adapt an outreach activity to move it forward.

7. Discuss Madison's Sustainable CT recertification effort and plan for recertification activities/documentation as related to ongoing projects and plans for 2021  
Town Planner Mannix and Crawford are going to meet to work towards coordinating the town's calendar of events with the recertification efforts.
8. Discuss summer interns: identifying and planning their work  
There will be interns. One of three current interns is available for part of the summer. The Hand liaisons discussed the Eco Club projects they have been working on: a cafeteria recycling initiative, hydroponics and green boxes, and the pollinator pathway garden installation.
9. Confirm meeting dates for 2022  
Meeting dates for 2022 were confirmed as: January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 17, and December 22.
10. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Crawford