

Orange Conservation Commission - Notice of Meeting

High Plains Community Center - Room 2 - May 3, 2023 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

ORANGE, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 APR 28 PM 2:32
[Handwritten signature]

Call to order

II. Emergency Exits

III. Public Dialogue: Dana Crandall, Connecticut State (CAPS) Survey Coordinator at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) for the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program

IV. Review and approve April minutes

V. Financial Report

VI. Old Business

- A. Spring work day(s) status: THP rescheduled to Sat.5/6 9am-noon; 2nd site TBD
- B. Ewen Preserve: Status of improving and extending the existing unmapped "walkway" as an established, blazed trail.
- C. Wepawaug: status of historic informational plaque - style and cost; Howard Brooks designation.
- D. Racebrook Tract: Status of sign directing bicycle entry from parking lot.
Status of Orange Foundation grant request for parking lot fence.
Status of new entry sign.
Kiosk – replacement of plexiglass on back side with hinge, for posting of notices.
Status of Racebrook Tract advertisement on Trailsfork.com for mountain biking.
- E. Connecticut Trails DEEP Grant application for Howard Brooks Walkway has been denied.
- F. Turkey Hill Preserve unofficial trails to be blazed as an expansion of the existing trails.
- G. Landscaping below open space entry signs - edged and mulched, with decorative boulders.
- H. Lion's Club Mini-Grant application for \$500 submitted 2/24/23.
- I. Status of pilot program for installation of surveillance cameras and/or motion-detector solar spotlights in parking lots.
- J. Revisions to verbiage on Homepage of OCC website.

- K. Revisions to SCRCOG maps for each trail and the Leadership map.
- L. Development of a Mission Statement; Discuss needed updates to OCC Handbook, review of By-Laws.
- M. Spring re-blazing of trails.
- N. Status of all members' creating gmail accounts for access to upcoming Google Docs.

VII. New Business

- A. Write up of new trailhead at RBT for local publications.
- B. Publicize purchase of Wheelers Farm acreage.
- C. Discussion concerning closing the Howard Brooks walkway at Racebrook Tract; unsafe conditions.
- D. "Stay on Main Trail" signs to be posted at RBT at the 3 town line markers.

VIII. Review of Trails & Steward Reports

- a. Wepawaug Conservation Area - Sharon Ewen / Scott Somerville
- b. Housatonic Overlook - Donna Wesolowski
- c. Paul Ode Nature – Donna Wesolowski
- d. Racebrook Tract – Santo Galatioto / Sharon Kahara
- e. Ewen Preserve – Sharon Ewen / Chantelle Bunnell
- f. Turkey Hill Preserve – Mike Ross / Scott Somerville
- g. Planned Events – 5/6 Work Day at THP; future Work Day at Wepawaug
Inquiry to Anthony Zemba for date for guided Bird Walk at THP
- h. Publicity – Website, FaceBook, Email, Orange Life; Orange Live – Chantelle Bunnell