COMMISSION ON THE USE OF PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTIES
(CUPOP) Minutes
Special Meeting
6:30 pm - Monday, September 16, 2019
Town Hall - Central Meeting Room

Present: CUPOP Members -- Lor Ferrante Fernandes-Chair & Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee Member, Marty Halprin-Co-Chair, Patti McKeon-Secretary, Leslie Lyons, Nancy Polk, Nicole Donzello

Unavailable: Joe Dey – BOS Liaison
TDB – Ex-Officio, Town Planning & Zoning Chair
TBD – Ex-Officio, Conservation Commission Member Selectman

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

2. Public Comments: There were no public comments.

3. Minutes: June 17 2019 Minutes were approved. Marty Halprin motioned; Nancy Polk seconded; all in favor.

4. CUPOP’s Newest Member: A warm welcome was extended to CUPOP’s newest member, Nicole Donzello.

5. Workshop Feedback & Future Topics:
   • September 3 Workshop - What’s In and What’s Out for Recycling -
     Lor Ferrante Fernandes attended and reported the workshop was successful and well attended with about 20-25 people. The workshop addressed the move away from plastic items and noted new items that should be recycled and those that should no longer be recycled
   • November 18 Workshop - Invasive Species - This workshop was rescheduled from September 10. It will be held at the Town Library, 6-7:45 pm. Topics to be covered include: deer population, invasive species with focus on Japanese barberry. This workshop will be CUPOP’s November meeting.

6. Invasive Species:
   • New Bill Passed - It was noted that a new invasive species bill was passed into law which begins January 1, 2020. The law requires a $5 boat stamp for CT boat owners and a $25 stamp for out-of-state boat owners. Proceeds will help fund the removal of invasive species from state rivers and lakes.
• **Training** - It was noted that the following link below offers some training events. [https://www.ctwoodlands.org/CFPA-events/invasive-species-volunteer-training](https://www.ctwoodlands.org/CFPA-events/invasive-species-volunteer-training)

• **Ordinance Recommendation** - Discussion about developing an Ordinance recommendation for Japanese Barberries took place. Committee members will research related ordinances that may exist in other Towns as well as any State ordinances.

7. **Plan of Conservation and Development - 2015**: It was noted that the plan will continue to be reviewed.

8. **Research on Underground UI Wires**: Nancy Polk reported that a new development in Orange has underground wires. Discussion ensued as to whether this is a standard with new developments being built.

9. **Management of Invasive Species on Publicly Owned Properties Project**:
   Lor Ferrante Fernandes reviewed the three phases of this prospective project:
   • Identify publicly owned parcels with invasive species with descriptions of parcels (sunny, shady, wetlands, etc.)
   • Identify invasive species on each parcel
   • Prioritize clean-up (removal & replanting) via volunteers & master gardeners

10. **Chairman’s Update**:
    • **Town Donations and Beautification Plans**: It was noted that individuals may still partake in the Woodbridge Tree Donation Program for new tree plantings on the Fitzgerald property along Center Road.

    • **Litchfield Turnpike**: It was noted that the DOT construction work being done to improve the area on Litchfield Turnpike (section near Exit #59 entrance ramp) is nearing completion. While a specific date is not known, completion is expected sometime this fall.

    • **Orange Transfer Station Tour and Update on Woodbridge Transfer Station**: Lor Ferrante Fernandes visited the Orange Transfer Station and reported it was quite impressive noting that cameras were available to view items disposed. It was further noted that the weight scale at the Woodbridge Transfer Station is functional for haulers and reported that it looks neat and organized.

    • **Former Country Club of Woodbridge Property** Lor Ferrante Fernandes noted that the selected developer is willing to present development plans to Woodbridge Boards and Commissions and she made a request that the developer attend the CUPOP October meeting.

    • **Fallapalooza - First Church of Christ Arts Event**: It was noted that a shredding truck will be in the Department of Public Works parking lot on October 19 between 9 am - noon (for households).

    • **Freedom of Information (FOI) Workshop**: The workshop will be held on September 25, 6:30 pm at Town Hall and is open to Board & Commission members. CUPOP members were encouraged to attend.

    • **Potential for Grass Ordinance**: It was noted that grass ordinance is on the next Ordinance Committee agenda.
11. **CUPOP Meetings**: It was noted that upcoming meetings are October 21, November 18, December 16, and January 21 (January 20 is MLK).
   • **October Meeting** – Agenda topics to include: former County Club of Woodbridge development update, grass blight ordinance, Japanese barberry update, dog park update
   • **November Meeting** - It was unanimously agreed that CUPOP’s November meeting will be held at the Woodbridge Town Library as part of the November 18 Invasive Species Workshop, 6-7:45 pm.
     Patti McKeon motioned; Leslie Lyons seconded. All in favor.
   • **January Meeting** - It was noted that the January 21 meeting will be held at Town Hall in the First Selectman’s Meeting Room.

12. **New Representatives Liaison Ex Officio from the Conservation Commission and TPZ per the charter**: Lor reached out to commission chairs requesting a representative.

13. **BOS Liaison Report**: Joe Dey was not present.

14. **Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 pm.
    Nancy Polk motioned; Marty Halprin seconded. All in favor.