COMMISSION ON THE USE OF PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTIES  
(CUPOP)  
Meeting Minutes  
6:00 pm - Monday, November 18, 2019  
Woodbridge Town Library – Friends’ Meeting Room

Present: CUPOP Members: Lor Ferrante Fernandes - Chair & Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee Member, Marty Halprin - Co-Chair, Patti McKeon - Secretary, Leslie Lyons, and Nancy Polk;  
Liaisons: Robert Klee - Ex-Officio, Town Planning & Zoning Chair  
Guest Speaker: Jeffery Ward, Ph.D., Chief Scientist-Department of Forestry and Horticulture at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

2. Next Meeting: It was noted that the next CUPOP meeting is scheduled for December 16 at 6:30 pm in the Central Meeting Room, Town Hall.

3. CUPOP Workshop: Guest speaker, Jeffery Ward, Ph.D., Chief Scientist-Department of Forestry and Horticulture at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station ran an informative session with focus on eradicating the Japanese Barberry and other invasive species. Mr. Ward gave a brief background on the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station which he noted has been in operation since 1875. He shared changes in the forest culture based upon the take-over of invasive species noting its negative impact on native plants and wildlife as well as the significant increase in the tick population. Methods used to remove invasive species were addressed. Further discussed was the need to plant native species to help sustain forest wildlife and to help prevent regrowth of invasive.  
The workshop was well attended including three Amity Regional High School students, representing their Important Issues class. Following the presentation, a lively question and answer period took place.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Toni Belenski