

**NEWINGTON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
Special Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2022**

Chairman Bernadette Conway called the regular meeting of the Newington Open Space Committee to order at 6:30 pm in Town Council Chambers, Room 103 of the Newington Town Hall, 200 Cedar Street, Newington, CT. This was a hybrid/webinar meeting.

Commissioners Present:

- Bernadette Conway (via zoom)
- Gail Budrejko
- Sandra Austin Goldstein
- Gia Pascarelli (via zoom)

Commissioners Absent:

- Mitch Page

Town Staff Present:

- Renata Bertotti, Town Planner
- Erik S. Hinckley, Asst. Town Planner / ZEO

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I. ROLL CALL

The presence of the above members was noted.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Goldstein made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Pascarelli, and approved unanimously.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. July 28, 2022

This item was tabled until the next meeting as some commissioners had not received and/or reviewed the minutes of July 28, 2022.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Speaker Dennis Kern from the Berlin Land Trust

Mr. Kern discussed the history and acquisitions of the Berlin Land Trust. Other topics of discussion included; locations of properties owned by the trust, grants and grant monies, funding, public outreach/education, trails, stewardship of the land, conservation/preservation of land, costs associated with land trusts, scholarships and fundraising, and potential partnership with Newington.

- b. Review Past Actions

There was a brief discussion between the commissioners and planning staff in regards to the updated list of properties the committee is interested in protecting/conserving.

- c. Discuss Future Open Space Strategies

Town Planner Bertotti discussed with commissioners their need to review the list and determine and/or rank the properties the committee is most interested in potentially preserving for the future.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

VIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Conway thanked committee member Goldstein for arranging for Dennis Kern to speak this evening.

IX. Adjourn

Commissioner Goldstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pascarelli, and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik S. Hinckley
Asst. Town Planner / ZEO