



**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
AGRICULTURE AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION [AgCon]**

**FRANKLIN TOWN HALL
7 Meetinghouse Hill Rd.
Franklin, CT 06254**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 21, 2019
7:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Susan Allen called the meeting to order at 7:26 pm.

Members Present: Chairperson Susan Allen, Gail Miller, Craig Staebner. **Members Absent:** Vice Chair Alan Holmberg. **Alternate Member Present:** Roland Mihok. **Alternate Members Absent:** Chester Rynaski.

Roland Mihok was seated as a voting member.

2. Recognition of Visitors and Initial Inquiries: N/A
3. Election of Officers: Chairperson Susan Allen opened the floor for nominations for Officer Positions:

MOTION #1 (11.21.19): made by Gail Miller SECONDED BY Roland Mihok that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission nominate ***Susan Allen as Chairperson***. There were no other nominations.

MOTION #2 (11.21.19): made by Craig Staebner SECONDED BY Gail Miller that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission nominate ***Alan Holmberg as Vice Chairperson***. There were no other nominations.

MOTION #3 (11.21.19): made by Roland Mihok SECONDED BY Gail Miller that the Agriculture & Conservation close the floor for nominations.

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Vote on MOTION #1

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Vote on MOTION #2

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

4. Approval of Minutes

- a. June 20, 2019:

MOTION #4 (11.21.19): made by Craig Staebner SECONDED BY Roland Mihok that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission approve the Minutes of June 20, 2019 as amended:

- Agenda Item 6a: Replace complete paragraph with "The Franklin Hills Golf Course Project permit has expired at this time."
- Agenda Item 7a: Correct spelling "tail" to "trail"; Add final sentence to read "existing yellow trail is being re-blazed by Konow family."

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

4. Call for Additional Agenda Item: N/A

5. Correspondence: N/A

6. Old Business

- a. **FRANKLIN HILLS GOLF COURSE:** The Franklin Hills Golf Course project is under new management. The original management team, at the time land use approvals were obtained, has been removed from all aspects of management activities. There is talk a new project including a year round water park with ski resort and stores is part of a preliminary concept.
- b. **POLICY CONSERVATION EASEMENT INSPECTION:** There was review of the Southeast Connecticut Council of Governments mapping of conservation areas/open space in the Franklin area. There was discussion about Hyde Park and property leading off of Pautipaug Lane. The Town Assessor is researching who owns these properties and if there are conservation easements/opens space designations.
- c. **PUTNAM ASH LANDFILL:** This item is here as a placeholder for future reference.

7. New Business:

a. **AGCON 2020 MEETING CALENDAR:**

MOTION #5 (11.21.19): made by Craig Staebner SECONDED BY Roland Mihok that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission approve their 2020 Meeting Calendar – as presented

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

- b. **APPOINTMENT LETTERS:** Members and terms are being reviewed and will be updated accordingly.
- c. **FARM BUREAU:** The State Annual Meeting was held today. Craig Staebner was not able to attend.
- d. **LAND CONSERVATION EFFORTS:** The Peltier grant completion process reached its 30 day comment period ending November 14, 2019. The grant would in effect make up the difference within the purchase price and reimburse to the Town of Sprague for appraisal, surveying, and environmental studies costs. Grant funds should now be awarded accordingly and officially released and a check should be coming shortly.
- e. **TRAIL BLAZING:** The Konow family has just about completed blazing the Yellow Trail.
- f. **WCCC PROGRAM: CAIRNS & STONE CHAMBERS (IN FRANKLIN):** There were about 15 towns represented at the consortium. There was detailed discussion about the history of Cairns & Stone Chambers in Windham County.

8. General Comments: None

9. Public Comment: None

10. Adjournment:

MOTION #6 (11.21.19): made by made by Craig Staebner SECONDED BY Roland Mihok that the Agriculture & Conservation Commission adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: UNANIMOUS;

MOTION CARRIES

Respectfully submitted, Sherry Pollard