



**PUTNAM VALLEY  
COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
Town Hall, Putnam Valley NY 10579**

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 22, 2022, MEETING OF THE PV CCE**

In Attendance: Chair Wendy Whetsel, Members, Mia Azcue, Eileen Reilly, Julie Ruben (by phone), Glenn Sapir and CCE applicant Aubrey Carter

Absent: Mike Usai

Wendy Whetsel began the meeting in the Community Room of the Putnam Valley Library at 5:10.

First order of business was to confirm future monthly meetings of the CCE to occur on the second Thursday of the month at 5 pm in the Community Room of the PV Library. Meetings would be held on Zoom only if inclement weather should prevent a library gathering.

Aubrey Carter, whom Julie had recommended as a candidate for the open position on the CCE, introduced himself to the CCE members.

Wendy asked if there were any objections to the current membership of the CCE, because she had to submit a CCE roster to the Town Supervisor for the Town Board's upcoming organizational meeting. There were no objections to membership or Wendy's chairmanship.

Discussion on an attendance schedule for subsequent Planning Board meetings was tabled for our January meeting, though Eileen Reilly said she would try to attend when possible.

We agreed to renew our NYSACC membership.

Wendy had listed a number of issues on the agenda. We touched on some of them, but Wendy emphasized that these will be revisited in detail during the coming year. She also asked that we think about topics we wish to discuss at upcoming meetings.

Wendy stated she will present the ridgeline map to the Town Board at its Jan. 18 meeting.

Julie Ruben, who serves on the board of the New York State Association of Conservation Commissions, reported on some points and recommendations made at its most recent quarterly board meeting relevant to all CCEs.

- One community has a voluntary vine squad, which works on removing invasive vines. Perhaps we can form such a team in PV. It was suggested that we could team up with the high school to offer this task to fulfill a community service requirement.

- Some communities had implemented a gas-powered leaf-blower ban.
- Some communities are encouraging mulching lawn mowers.
- CCE should be a watch dog on land-use issues.
- Utilize the press.
- Every town should have a cell tower siting law.
- Consider adding associate members to the CCE, who can participate but not vote.

Wendy was asked to contact Bruce Barber to learn the status of a 60-room hotel proposal.

Glenn was asked to prepare an Annual Report on CCE activities for presentation to the Town Board.

Mia volunteered to attend the next three Town Board meetings and present a report of some kind on behalf of the CCE. In January, we will try to assign meetings for other members to attend.

The January 2023 meeting was scheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 12, at the Community Room of the PV Library.

Meeting ended at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn Sapir, Recording Secretary