



**PUTNAM VALLEY  
COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION  
OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 13, 2023, MEETING OF  
THE PV CCE**

In Attendance: Chair Wendy Whetsel, CCE members Mia Azcue, Aubrey Carter, Eileen Reilly, Julie Ruben, Glenn Sapir and Mike Usai and ad hoc member Christi Kroll  
Absent: CCE ad hoc member Ciara Clauss

The meeting was called to order at the Putnam Valley Library Community Room at approximately 6 p.m.

Wendy Whetsel distributed to each member two sets of documents related to the Rabbinical Seminary of America application for a cemetery to be built on Barger Street. The first was a Lead Agency Agreement making the Planning Board the lead agency in this review and approval process. The second document was the Full Environmental Assessment Form. After allowing each member to review the documents, Wendy asked for comments. Glenn suggested that we further review the documents on our own time and then offer comments to the entire CCE via email, so that we can pool our comments, after review and agreement by the CCE, into a single document. Wendy was asked to find out when our comments would be due to the Planning Board.

Regarding ridgeline protection, Wendy reported that Bruce Barber expressed the belief that the Town Board would accept the CCE-offered Ridgeline Map if ridgelines with a higher than 20 percent grade in Fahnestock State Park were included and if all ridgelines with less than a 20 percent grade were removed from the entire map. The CCE agreed to have that revised map created.

Wendy encouraged an outreach to the public regarding the removal of invasive vines. Aubrey Carter agreed to field email inquiries from the public to advise and possibly assist on the removal of such invasives from private properties. Glenn Sapir volunteered attend the Town Board meeting on July 19 to deliver that message and direct the public to the CCE portion of the town website, where we have posted information about the removal of Oriental Bittersweet, one such invasive vine.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 10, at 6 p.m. at the PV Library Community Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Sapir,  
CCE Recording Secretary