



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

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14, 2024 MEETING OF
THE PUTNAM VALLEY COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE
ENVIRONMENT**

In Attendance: CCE members: Wendy Whetsel, Jeffrey Coren, Julie Rubin, Aubrey Carter
Members of Public: Christie Kroll

Roll call was taken and is reported above. Wendy Whetsel chaired the meeting in Mike Usai's absence.

CCE Membership

- The CCE will have two vacancies to fill as of January 1, 2025. Aubrey and Eileen will not be returning next year.
- The CCE decided to fill the two vacancies and get through the organizational meeting in January before determining the commission's direction and priorities for 2025 and beyond.
- Potentially hold off until January to nominate a new chair for the CCE.

Open Space Inventory

- Jeff went to the town board and was asked to bring OSIs from neighboring towns to present to the board. It is still to be resolved who from the CCE will print them out and bring them to the town.

Environmental Club at PVHS

- Wendy met the head of the environmental club and they're very interested in collaborating. We need to follow up with ideas on how to get the kids involved.

Drought

- All of Putnam Valley, Putnam County, the Hudson Valley, and much of the northeast are experiencing severe droughts.

Outreach and Education

- The CCE discussed means and methods to increase the commission's reach in disseminating information to the public. The CCE has plenty of material to disseminate, but the avenues through which to disseminate it are unclear.

Planning Board Updates (Christie Kroll):

- Camp Combe is back on Planning Board agenda and is now proposed to transition to year-round use.

- Revised plans for Camp Combe were scaled back and are not as extensive as the plans introduced a year ago.
- The Zoning Board determined the Rabbinical Seminary of America's (RSA) proposed cemetery is considered a "house of worship", and "a grave constitutes a structure". Zoning prohibits structures within 100 feet of each other, so the RSA is going to the Zoning Board on 12/5/24 to apply for an exemption.

The next meeting will be on December 19, 2024 at 6pm in the Putnam Valley Public Library.