



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

MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2025 MEETING OF  
THE PUTNAM VALLEY COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT

In Attendance: CCE members: Beth Gorman (Chair), Jeffrey Coren, Allison Hague, Julie Ruben, Kelly Weill, Wendy Whetsel, and Mike Usai

Members of the public: Greg Donohue, C.J. Brooks, Christie Kroll

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. The roll was called and is reported above.

Julie mentioned the Open Space Inventory grant application period will open soon, and she will look out for the announcement from the NYSDEC.

The CCE decided to change the meeting days for the summer to accommodate vacation schedules. The meetings will be switched to the second Monday of the month beginning in June (June 9) and will begin at 6:30pm.

There was a short discussion about Town Day, which will be on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The CCE will participate again this year.

The CCE discussed providing an update at the Town Board meetings during the community updates. We historically have done this, and Beth has been doing them since January. It is a good opportunity to inform the public what the CCE has been doing and provide information about the environment. Wendy offered to do the update at the June Town Board meeting.

The discussion then turned to other means of community outreach and topics. Wendy said she and Allison are working on a PowerPoint about recycling. The CCE discussed the need to update the commission's website.

Beth and Kelly reported out on their meeting with Jackie Annabi about CCE's outreach. It was decided the CCE will have a social media presence and can produce a newsletter. Various logistical items were discussed. Kelly offered to develop a style guide and SOP for generating content to ensure stylistic consistency. The CCE will have an email address, CCEofPV@gmail.com.

The CCE will participate in Community Day at Tompkins Corners on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We will have a survey on what environmental issues/topics matters to people and a petition, in conjunction with Sustainable Putnam, about composting.

Student Members – Allison and Kelly will meet with the PVHS environmental club on May 9 to find Juniors interested in joining the CCE to fill the slots allocated to student members. The CCE

discussed having student memberships be project based with a time commitment of approximately four hours per month with regular check-ins and in-person attendance at CCE meetings as their schedules allow.

The CCE then discussed the Town's septic pump out laws and the need to standardize the required pump out frequencies among the lake communities. Currently residences of Lake Oscawana have to pump their septic every three years and Lake Peekskill every five years. There are no requirements for Roaring Brook and Barger Pond. The discussion started with a discussion of an intentional septic discharge to Lake Peekskill.

Action Items:

- Kelly will create a style guide and SOP for social media and educational content.
- Allison and Kelly will meet with the PVHS Environmental Club on May 9 to recruit student members.
- Julie will monitor NYSDEC announcements for the opening of the OSI grant application period.

The next meeting will be on Monday June 9, 2025 at 6:30pm at the Grace Methodist Church, 337 Peekskill Hollow Road.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Mike Usai, Secretary