



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

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 11, 2025 MEETING OF
THE PUTNAM VALLEY COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE
ENVIRONMENT

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

Members of the public: Greg Donohue, Mike Towle

The meeting was called to order at 6:37pm. The roll was called and is reported above.

The meeting began with updates on projects pending before the Planning Board. There is no movement on the Camp Combe proposal, no update on the Rabbinical Seminary Cemetery project, and Living Springs is back on the market.

The Open Space Inventory (OSI) grant application was discussed. The grant application was due in the beginning of August but was not submitted this year due to the town's prioritization of other needed grants. The CCE will pursue this grant in the next cycle and is investigating other potential grant funding.

The CCE then discussed plans for Town Day. Town Day is on September 20th and the CCE will staff a table from 12pm-4pm. The CCE discussed logistics of setup, staffing and materials for display and handout.

The CCE discussed several potential educational materials for Town Day including information and displays on recycling, invasive plants, a display that gives the public the opportunity to say what environmental issues they care about, a petition for a food scraps program. Handouts will include native seed packs, tick information and removal kits among other items.

The next topic discussed was a letter the CCE has drafted to Supervisor Annabi outlining the CCE's role in the town and how it could provide advice and insight to other town boards and committees. It's in draft form and the CCE will finalize the letter.

Kelly Weill then discussed the pilot food scraps program the Food Scraps Recycling Working Group is working on with Cucumber Hill Farm. People can drop off compostable food at the PV farmers' market and Cucumber Hill Farm uses the scraps to feed the chickens and ducks. The CCE will raise awareness for the need for a food scraps program with pamphlets and other methods and transition to a petition at Town Day and through other means including the CCE's discord channel, PV Voice, and try to have it in the Town's social media.

The CCE has developed a communication plan and will send to Supervisor Annabi.

The next meeting will be on Monday September 8, 2025 at 6:30pm at the Grace Methodist Church, 337 Peekskill Hollow Road.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Mike Usai, Secretary