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

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2026, MEETING OF
THE PUTNAM VALLEY COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ENVIRONMENT

In Attendance: CCE members: Beth Gorman (Chair), Julie Ruben, Jeff Coren, and Kelly Weill

Members of the public: Sherry Howard (Board liaison), Mike Towle, Eric Stone, Ken Sills, Jenie Fu

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm. The roll was called and is reported above.

Beth and Julie announced that they had secured a meeting with Sherry and Supervisor Jolicoeur to discuss topics related to the Natural Resources Inventory including:

- Formal Town adoption of the NRI
- Potential updates to the NRI to clarify that it is only to be used for planning purposes
- Mike's ongoing digitization of the current NRI

The group discussed progress toward an Open Space Inventory:

- Julie had a productive meeting with the Town to discuss steps toward an OSI
- The CCE will need to secure a project manager for an OSI. The CCE will gather more information about procurement requirements for project manager bids. Hudsonia Ltd. and JN Landtrust Services were discussed as project management candidates.
- The CCE plans to use Town Day to raise awareness of the OSI and to gather survey information from residents.
- Julie has sent the group examples of comparable towns' OSI templates. Mike has drafted a template for Putnam Valley's OSI.

Sherry spoke on behalf of the Putnam Valley Historical Society:

- The Historical Society is hosting an Oct. 3 event celebrating America's 250th anniversary.
- The Historical Society requested participation from the CCE, especially in hosting activities for children. Eric suggested a pottery activity with Hudson

River clay and information about the Hudson River's history.

The CCE discussed plans for Town Day, including:

- Bringing a tablet computer on which attendees could take a survey about the OSI
- Finding volunteers to oversee the survey
- Hosting kids' activities at the CCE table
- Displaying a map of Putnam Valley and allowing visitors to mark their favorite natural places with stickers.

Action Items:

- Beth: decide on OSI templates at next action group meeting. Reach out about kids' art supplies for Town Day. Look into Town Day t-shirts. Print Town Day materials.
- Julie: find advisory committee for OSI. Call Hudson River Estuary Program about OSI grant.
- Kelly: reach out to high school environmental club for Town Day volunteers. Finalize Town Day display
- Mike: print Town Day map

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Weill, Secretary