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

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2026, MEETING OF
THE PUTNAM VALLEY COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION
OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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

Members of the public: Sherry Howard (Board liaison), Sarah Bartlett, Jenie Fu, Sam Lee, Ken Sills, and Mike Towle

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

Beth announced that the CCE has voted to accept Eric Stone as a new voting member. The CCE will send his résumé to the Town Board for approval. The CCE has one remaining seat open, and is accepting applications for the role.

Beth summarized a recent meeting with Planning Board Chair Dale Phillips, Supervisor Alison Jolicoeur, and Councilman C.J. Brooks to discuss:

- Avenues for increased communication between the Planning Board and CCE
- Improved public communication about both groups' work
- The Planning Board working in a modified capacity while the Town Planner role is vacant
- The Parks and Recreation Department's forestry management plan

The CCE discussed a potential working group to review the Parks and Recreation Department's forestry management plan, with the goal of:

- Identifying potential gaps in the plan (e.g. invasive species management)
- Reviewing the plan's inclusion of commercial logging provisions
- Reviewing impact of logging access roads

The group reviewed plans for Town Day, and decided to add additional information about food scrap recycling to the CCE's Town Day display.

Julie updated the group on the status of the town's formal adoption of the Natural Resources Inventory.

- The NRI is on the agenda for the Sept. 16 Town Board meeting
- Ted Warren, public policy manager at the Hudson Highlands Land Trust will be present to take questions during the meeting's public comment section
- Beth and Julie recently met with Supervisor Jolicoeur to discuss the NRI's adoption. She supported adding the topic to the agenda for the Sept. 16 Town Board meeting.

Allison updated the CCE on grants for which the Climate Smart Task Force might apply, including grants for watershed protection, education, and agricultural conservation. Allison suggested preparing for a potential application by leading an educational walk through a Putnam Valley natural area that would benefit from the grant.

Sherry spoke on behalf of the Putnam Valley Historical Society, which is seeking a table from the CCE at its Oct. 3 event celebrating America's 250th anniversary.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Weill, Secretary