East Haddam
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Municipal Office Building, Room #1

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chair Bernie Gillis

2. Roll Call and Alternate Appointments
Members Present: Bernie Gillis, Barry Bernard, Cameron Beard, Susan Pagnano, David Walls
Members Absent: Pat Capel**,** Alan Ponanski, John Olin, Joe Sina
Guests: none
Alternate Appointments: Barry Bernard and David Walls were seated as alternates for the meeting.

3. **Approval of Agenda**
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Bernard/Pagnano: Passed Unanimously.

4. **Approval of Conservation Commission Minutes from August 4, 2026.**
Motion to approve the minutes as presented.
Bernard/Walls: Passed Unanimously.

5. Presentations from the Public: none

6. Chair's Updates: See updates under Stewardship and Forestry, and Outreach and Promotion

7. Old Business
   a. Subcommittee Updates
      i. Stewardship and Forestry Updates – Mr. Gillis

ii. Trees removed, trails cleared on the following:

Chapel Farm red trail
Sabine Reserver red and orange trails, lots of blowdowns
Nichols
Kronberg
Harris Reserve orange trail
Roaring Brook

Mowed brush at Harris and Hatch
Put down wood chips from the transfer station
Kronberg re-marked blue trail, painted the orange trail
Kiosk id ready for Lefebvre
Tuned up the brush mower
Talked to Gary Wilson who wants to be a trail monitor
Cameron and Bernie checked the King property. It will need a bridge over Roaring Brook which will be expensive. It would be good to get grant for that
We need to put hunting signs out by 9/15

iii. Outreach and Promotion – Mr. Gillis
Susan Pagnano said that Jean Martin would like to be a trail monitor. Mr. Gillis will get in touch.

iv. Climate Resilience– Mr. Olin – no update

b. Liaison Reports

i. IWWC Updates – Mr. Walls
Bob Casner is looking into developing some lots across from Shagbark. The lots are zoned for mixed use development– commercial retail, apartments, offices. The concern is the hydrology and how storm water is managed. Engineers are looking at the vegetation along Succor Brook. There are a lot of mature invasives which are securing the bank, not sure if they should be removed.
No update yet on the Fish and Game Club.

ii. P & Z Updates – Mr. Gillis –
There has been some discussion about forming a subcommittee to research increasing the number of scenic roads in town in order to preserve stone walls and trees.

iii. Open Space Updates – Mr. Sina – no update
iv. Eightmile Committee Updates – Mr. Beard no update
v. Sustainability Committee– Mr. Ponanski – no update

8. New Business
   a. New Bills
   The following bills were submitted and approved:
   $634.15 from Fiorucci and Malaki LLC for work at Shugrue consulting on the forestry project
   $78.46 from Shagbark – for lumber for posts and $25 for fuel for equipment.
   Motion to approve the bill as presented
   Beard /Walls – Passed Unanimously.

   b. Discussion from Commission members
   David Walls and Susan Pagnano offered to put up some No Hunting signs.

9. **Public Comment** (can be submitted via email to ccchair@easthaddam.org)
   None.

10. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 6 October 2026, 7:00 PM, Meeting Room #1

11. **Adjournment**
   Motion to adjourn at 7:24
   Bernard/Beard– Passed Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Hansen
Recording Secretary