

Killingworth Conservation Commission
Town Office Building
323 Route 81, Killingworth CT 06419

KCC Meeting Minutes Thursday, May 8, 2025 7:00pm

This was a virtual meeting. Connection information:

K. Conservation Commission
Thursday, May 8, 2025 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (EST)

1. Call to order: 7:05pm
2. Attendance: Katie Digianantonio, Jim Fullmer, Alec Martin, Guy Vecchitto, Stephanie Warren.
Absent: Marilyn Campbell
3. Visitors: None
3. Approval of minutes for April 10th, 2025. Guy Vecchitto made a motion to approve the informational minutes. Seconded by Stephanie Warren. Motion passed. Katie abstained.
4. Communications/Correspondence
 - * General Correspondence Update: None
 - Organization Information: CACIWC: Stephanie Warren reports the next CACIWC meeting is November 16, 2025. Warren informed our committee that our KCC membership renewal is coming up and the fee is \$65. Warren asked for a motion to continue our membership to CACIWC. Fullmer made a motion to renew our membership. Seconded by Vecchitto. Motion passed. Warren informed our committee that our KCC budget only has \$60 remaining until the end of June. Warren asked if the members were okay if she contributed the \$5 so we can get the renewal paid. All were pleased with Warren's contribution. CFPA: Warren reports CFPA is sponsoring a scenic hike on the Killingworth Reservoir Trail. It's for Sunday June 8th from 10 to 12. Warren sent our committee this information. Warren asked the committee if it would be okay to post this on the KCC website; all agreed. Katie also recommended to send it to All Things Killingworth; Warren will absolutely send it to them too.
 - Rockfall: Guy Vecchitto reports the executive director of the Connecticut Land Conservation Council is going to give a report on their upcoming 2025 legislative and policy agenda. This will take place on May 15th from 5:30 to 7:30pm at the Rockfall Foundation in Middletown. On May 17th from 8:30 to 10:30am there will be a free guided spring bird walk at Haddam Meadow State Park. On May 18th from 10:00am to 12:30pm at the Rockfall Forest in Middlefield, Ct. there will be a workshop on how to identify and manage invasive plants in your backyard. And finally, on May 29th from 6:00 to 7:30pm at the DeKoven House in Middletown there will be a presentation on Pee the Change! Urine Nutrient Recycling for Clean Water & Fertile Farms.

- Legislative/Conservation news from CLCV: Katie Digianantonio reports the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters had their legislative update. All the bills have made it out of committee. The big climate change bill 5004 has made it thru the House and is up for a vote in the Senate. Katie suggests we contact our State Senator and ask she brings it up for a vote. Senate Bill 9 is another important bill which asks for a ban on rodenticides and neonicotinoids. We should also ask our Senator to help get this bill passed. There are other issues being discussed such as a possible ban on gasoline powered leaf blowers, and a ban on single use utensils.

The committee had some discussion on the recycling of plastic bags. Katie and Stephanie informed our committee that Big Y in Clinton and the Stop and Shop in Madison accepts plastic bags from citizens. The committee appreciated this information.

5. Reports of Officers, Committees, and Organizations

- Parmelee Farm/ Historical Society: Jim Fullmer reports on May 10th there will be a big tag sale, and the Garden Club will sell baked goods also. This tag sale is part of the town wide tag sale which also will be going on that weekend. On June 5th there will be a picnic sponsored by the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. It will be held at 153 Ironworks Rd. tickets are \$25, children 10 and under will be free. Finally on July 8th there will be a blood drive at the Fire House on Rt 81.

- LCVRPC: Alec Martin, Stephanie Warren: Alec Martin reports the last two meetings has been devoted to the fair housing problem. A bill has been proposed that would mandate the towns to have affordable housing units available. Developers could potentially sue the town if they are not allowed to build these units. Stephanie Warren commented that it is a terrible bill and if passed supposedly in 10 years Killingworth should have 279 additional housing facilities to accommodate and meet affordable housing. The problem is there is no consideration of the fact that there is no town wide sewer system and water may not be available in some locations. It is endangering identified open space, and it may impact farm areas. All those on the River Cog group were all very unhappy with these developments and the possible problems this bill could create. Stephanie will pass on further information as it develops.

- KCC Education Projects: Stephanie Warren said due to the decrease in the number of children participating in the summer contest, she will be revising the whole process and let us know when something is finalized.

- KLCT: Marilyn Campbell: No Report

6. Old Business: Stephanie Warren thanked Katie and Guy for their articles in the Be Bear Aware series. There was three articles published in the HK Now website. Katie did the first one, Guy did the third one; and Stephanie did the middle one.

* Updates on the project proposals: Stephanie Warren is waiting to hear back from the Bear Lady, who hopefully will give a presentation to our citizens.

Project Proposals: Stephanie Warren asked the committee to try to come up with some ideas for projects which could be done in the fall.

Earth Day: Stephanie Warren reports she did a display table, and some pictures were taken which she will send to us. The table was setup at Running Brook Farms. The weather was very raining and only 10 people showed up. Katie Digianantonio was at Parmellee Farm to lead citizens on a trail cutting project; unfortunately, due to the pouring rain, nobody showed up. Katie did clip some vines, got very wet, and then called it a day at Parmellee. Katie did go on to the transfer station and along with Rosilyn Reeps and talked with citizens about the food scrap and textile recycling programs.

7. New Business : Katie Digianantonio announced The Killingworth Women's Organization will be hosting the Town Picnic at Dear Lake on October 5th. The KCC has until June 9th to register if we want to have a table. All agreed we should have a table again this year.

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- General Member Announcements: Jim Fullmer brought the members up to date on all the celestial happenings coming up for the rest of the month.

8. Adjournment: Guy Vecchitto made a motion to adjourn. Alec Martin seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Next KCC Meeting: Thursday, June 12,2025, at - 7:00 pm. This may be a hybrid meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by: Guy Vecchitto KCC Member