

Wallingford Conservation Commission Minutes
Monday, June 22, 2026, 4:30 PM, Wallingford Town Hall

Call to Order: 4:38

Roll Call: Denise Eddy (chair), Debbie Scranton, CJ Sloane, Ralph Nimtz

Guests: Anne Awad

Approval of Minutes of 5/18/2026

Bee Hives CJ Sloane reports that bees are doing well. She will manage hives to increase the colonies and health of the bees. No honey until next spring, so no honey sales from this year's bees this year. The bee sales money had been formerly been kept in a separate account, but are now with our regular budget money. At a September Selectboard meeting, we will consult with the board members on the WCC having a separate account of the honey money which would be voted on at Town Meeting. CJ Sloane will need roughly \$800 for supplies.

Town clerk reported that honey sales had dropped off, with a couple of complaints on changing taste and odor. We were given a jar to test for ourselves at this meeting. The consensus was that the raw creamy honey was just fine, and noted that honey changes depending on the type of pollen collected by the bees over the course of the summer. Perhaps having a sign would explain this phenomenon.

Stone Meadow Mowing and Maintenance Last month's mowing and clean-up day was postponed due to lack of sufficient members. In order to hire professional mowing, the WCC would need to get estimates from three companies to present to the Selectboard. R. Nimtz would prefer that we continue with our own work, being the only town entity not contracting out. We decided to wait until the return of Dennis Duhaime before making decisions as much of the work would fall upon R. Nimtz and D. Duhaime. John Squier overhead our mowing problem, and took it upon himself to mow at Stone Meadow, requesting some compensation from the town. The large meadow will need mowing, likely brush hogging in late summer. We might be able to hire someone without getting bids if the fee would be under a certain threshold.

Pollinator Garden This garden of native perennials was started by Moriah who has since moved away. The garden is overgrown, and we discussed various options. We decided to remove the damaged pallet signage, let the area become naturalized wildflowers, and to move the bench dedicated to Cassie A'Hearn to the nearby junction of the main beach trail, and the gentle incline trail, well situated between Waldo Lane and the beach.

Logo CJ Sloane created a wonderful logo which is being used in our signage, now at Awesome Graphics.

Public Outreach Programs A very popular program of Wallingford University was Janet Kennedy Farmer's on identifying mushrooms. The WCC is sponsoring a walk, where the participants pay a nominal fee, subsidized by the WCC, for a two hour walk with a maximum of 15 people (5 from the WCC and 10 guests). Fee is \$450 which has been pre-paid. August 8 is the date and the site will be the Farmer/Meyer property on West Hill.

Items we may need to purchase with this year's town funding, prior to the end of June, 2026:

Office supplies of poster boards and markers, bee supplies, small chain saws and other tools for trail work to be stored at the shed. We need an inventory of what is now in the shed. D. Eddy will see if she can get an oak tree to plant in memory of former member Jane Quigley.

Budget \$1443.29 (which includes money from honey sales) Next July meeting we will work on a doable budget.

Next meeting is on Monday, July 27, 2026 at 4:30 Wallingford Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Scranton