Jan Fitter called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. and appointed Dennis Goderre and Paul Trubey as voting alternates.

Motion by Alton Blodgett to approve the December 2, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Keith LaPorte and unanimously approved.

Motion by Ethan Sterns to approve the December 10, 2019 special meeting minutes with the amendment that Ethan Sterns made the motion to approve under “c.” and not Keith LaPorte. Motion seconded by Alton Blodgett and unanimously approved.

Mr. Chester reported that the CT Water had identified 3.28 acres on Andrew Street at Amston Lake for possible disposition; town received the updated Geer appraisal and transmitted it to the CT Dept. of Agriculture so that they could make a new offer; IWC had authorized timber harvest on Fowler Road on Lemay property; the town has requested appraisals for the Williams property on Mack Road per CT Dept. of Agriculture request.

Motion by Jan Fitter to recommend to the Board of Finance that the Commission operating budget for FY 2020-21 be increased to $500.00 to help cover the cost of issuing the annual newsletter. Motion seconded by Ethan Sterns and unanimously approved.

The Commission reviewed the 12/30/19 draft ConsAg 2020 POCD Natural Resources section and made minor changes. Discussion ensued about adding trail linkages to existing open spaces, focusing on preserving priority forest area, and the appropriate open space funding level for the coming decade.

Motion by Alton Blodgett to forward said draft with changes to the Planning and Zoning Commission for incorporation into the 2020 POCD. Motion seconded by Ethan Stearns and unanimously approved.

Motion by Paul Trubey to recommend to the Board of Finance that $100,000.00 be added to the FY 2020-21 Capital Budget to go into the Open Space Account which follows the recommendation in the POCD. Motion seconded by Dennis Goderre and unanimously approved.

The Commission adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Philip S. Chester, AICP
Town Planner
1/7/20