



Woodbury Republican Town Committee Minutes – June 12, 2025

P.O. Box 255, Woodbury, CT 06798

Emergency Services Building – 7:00 PM

Present: Members of the WRTC.

1) Call to Order by Chairman:

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

2) Seating of Alternates:

Chairman Cunningham seated alternates Alan Diamond and Drew Gwiazdoski.

3) Pledge of Allegiance:

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4) Recognition of Guests:

*Chairman Cunningham recognized the following guests:

*First Selectman Perkinson who asked that anyone that has any town issues that need to be raised to please, instead of putting it on social media, email it to her and she will see that it gets to the correct party.

* State Representative Karen Remington Hughes was very disappointed that the State Representatives passed into law a housing bill that will change every town and take away power to the smaller towns. She felt that the developers would love it as it gives them more power and they will be able to place housing in places they were not able to before. She suggested that the best thing that small towns can do is to be pre-emptive and really have a plan in place that will satisfy the state and create what they want their towns to look like.

* Karen Remington Hughes said that she will be running for **Selectman** again and looks forward to the planning of Main Street and making Woodbury a vibrant Community with what the citizens of Woodbury want for the Town.

* The State Representatives discussed transportation issues. Woodbury does not have public transportation and will be penalized for not having a transportation plan as all towns will, in the future, have to have a transportation plan in place otherwise when the State moves forward with their plan the towns will have to take whatever the State has.

*First Selectman Perkinson discussed the fact that the Commission for Seniors is working on a Transportation plan. Paul Zulpa said that they are thinking of a plan that is similar to the FISH plan that the Town had in place several years ago. Karen Redington Hughes feels that the most important thing is that the Towns figure out a plan for transportation as soon as possible. An Ad-Hoc committee to work on it was suggested.

5) Approval of the Minutes: Chairman Cunningham entertained a motion to approve the WRTC minutes of May 8th. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Chairman Cunningham asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes and there was one on page #2, #8 New Business, last line: The Committee members voted unanimously to have the caucus on Monday, July 21, 2025 at the Senior Community Center starting at **7:00 PM**. There were no other corrections or additions. All were in favor of approving the minutes with the one correction and no one was opposed. **Approved.**

6) Officer's Reports:

a) Chairman:

*Chairman Cunningham spoke about protocol for the Chairman of the WRTC. Chairman Cunningham explained that he went to the Town Clerk to book the venue for the Caucus and realized that it had already been booked without his knowledge. Chairman Cunningham said that in the future he would appreciate a phone call to tell him know of anyone's intentions so he is not blindsided again.

* Chairman Cunningham clarified that anything that has to do with the website go to him and if he is not around it should be emailed to Vice Chairman Luchetti. He also reminded everyone that a commitment was made and voted on to go with Lisa Wright, the web master of REIFY, and their Tier #2 plan. **The invoice for the website was submitted and the website is being updated and will be for six months going forward.**

b) Vice Chairman:

There is no report as Vice Chairman Luchetti was not able to attend the meeting.

c) Treasurer: Treasurer Burt Stevens said that there were no changes since the last meeting. As of now the checking account balance is \$2,127.57, the same as it was last month. He said that John Lewis has some cash for him and it will be recorded for the next meeting as will a contribution he received tonight.

Motion: A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made and seconded. All were in favor.

d) Secretary: Secretary Mackey was absent from the meeting so no report was given.

7) Committee Reports:

a) Candidate Recruitment: CRC Chairman Dennis Roberts said there was a situation since the last WRTC meeting and he felt that he needed to expedite a candidate for the Conservation Committee to the CRC Committee which he did. He then had the candidate submit an application to the Town. He felt he could not wait another month for this as he received a message that it was very important to do it now. Chairman Roberts read a letter to the WRTC members from the applicant to First Selectman Perkinson stating the applicant's qualifications for the Conservation Committee.

*Chairman Cunningham asked Chairman Roberts the last time he had a formal CRC meeting. Chairman Cunningham then said that going forward no applicant should be put forward until Chairman Roberts has a formal CRC meeting to approve the candidate.

Motion: A motion was made to accept the nomination of the candidate for the Conservation Committee. Chairman Cunningham asked if there was any discussion and there was none. All were in favor with no nays. **Approved.**

Chairman Cunningham said that from now on all members of the CRC Committee need to be included in a CRC meeting whether it is at a formal WRTC meeting or arrangements are made to hold a separate meeting for CRC. Zoom meetings are OK if there is a quorum. The discussion went on to discuss protocol and if people are not stepping up to help the CRC they should be replaced. Also, discussed was the fact that there has been trouble getting members to help with the internet and by laws for over a year and a half. Peter Perkinson then suggested that the CRC meet a half an hour before the Town Committee meetings and if people can't be a part of CRC, they should leave the Committee. **Chairman Cunningham** said that everyone needs to get back on tract and do everything right. The discussion continued on and Burt Stevens said that within the next month he would make sure that all the changes that the Committee has approved will be in the By-Laws.

b) Scholarship:

*Peter Perkinson, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, announced that Grace Walkup of 19 White Oak Road was the recipient of the Woodbury Republican Town Committee Scholarship this year. Grace is a senior at Nonnewaug High School and has applied to various colleges where she will major in Public and Social Services with a concentration in Security and Protective Services. For more information, please see Dollars for Scholars which is part of these minutes.

* Chairman Perkinson also made the point that when a speaker is speaking, he or she has the floor and everyone should stop talking and give that person the courtesy of paying attention.

c) Fund Raising/Events

***Memorial Day Parade** – five people worked on decorating the trailer and rode in the parade. The parade was well attended and went well. A raffle was set up after the parade and John Lewis and Paul Zulpa sold \$410.00 in tickets between 1:30 and 3:00. Chairman Lewis suggested that next year it would be excellent if more people showed up to march and help decorate. Chairman Cunningham suggested that people not on the Committee would be welcome to march with the WRTC.

***Raffle tickets:** So far approximately 500 raffle tickets have been sold. John Lewis said that the raffle has become popular.

***Juneteenth:** Next Thursday, June 19th, is Juneteenth, there will be an Emancipation Proclamation reading at the North Green bandstand along with other readings, speeches, music and ice cream starting at 7:00 PM.

*** d) Media – Public Information – Technology:**

Already discussed.

8) New Business:

*There is a Republican Caucus scheduled for July 21st. at 7:00 at the Woodbury Senior Center. Chairman Cunningham said that the paper work for that is being filed with the Town Clerk and State Central.

9) Old Business:

None at this time.

10) Privilege of the Floor:

None at this time.

11) Adjournment:

Chairman Cunningham adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Nancy Mackey, Secretary