

Conway Conservation Commission Minutes
September 12, 2023
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

Present for the Conservation Commission: Grace Larson, Chair; Louise Beckett, Mary Kay Costello, Brittany Nickerson, Tony Somers

Others Present: None

6:04 p.m. Grace convened the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of August 22, 2023

On a motion from Tony to approve the Minutes of August 22, 2023, Brittany seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial

None

Building Permits/Site Visits

- Building Permit- 153 Williamsburg Rd – carport construction – signed off
There was no order on this originally, but they sent it in for approval later.
- Building Permit – 145 Hamilton Dr. – 20' x 36' shed construction - pending
Site visit planned for Wednesday, September 13th.

Forest Cutting Plans

None

Notices

None

Updates

- *67 North Poland Rd – E, Cert*
Still pursuing National Heritage . DOT is going to re-do the bridge outside of the Ricardi's property.
- *South River Fallen Trees E. Cert – Extension*
Working with Natural Heritage. There's a window before the turtle hibernation takes place that they could remove the trees.
- *Bridge at Reeds Bridge Rd and 236 Shelburne Falls Rd.*
The landowner is responsible for any repair needed.

- *Planning Board Meeting – Flood Plain Overlay District*
The board approved of the overlay district and it will be going on the warrant for town meeting.

Hearings

- *6:10 p.m. – Enforcement Order E. Stuart – Continued*
This will be continued on the 26th. Both Mr. Stuart and Ward Smith should attend this meeting. The structure has to be moved as it's within the district. They also need to replace the trees that were felled.
- *6:20 p.m. – Ratify E. Certs*
 - ▶ Natural Roots – Solar Panels
Approval of the design and work on the solar panels. They have until the 30th to complete the work. For the road work they want to undertake, they need to file an NOI.
 - ▶ DOT – Town Roads
Permission has been received from Natural Heritage.
 - ▶ Swimming Pool
Private land and not an emergency. But it serves the public and that makes it more important.
- *6:50 p.m. – Discussion – Shared Conservation Agent*
Joint commission - position would cost 60-70K/year for 3 to 5 towns. How would costs be shared? Would there be enough to keep this position busy for the entire year? Competing deadlines and most work is done seasonally by all the conservation commissions. Other towns have different issues: understaffing – who gets priority when there are competing issues. What about a per diem agreement? Or paying on an on-call basis? Having this position could open up opportunities to address property owners about placing land in trust and other open space issues.

Other Unannounced Business

259 Thompson Road - building a new house on the same footprint as the building he will be taking down. Grace will put the legal ad in the paper tomorrow.

Pickleball: they will need to get a delineation from a wetlands expert to put in the proposed driveway.

Next Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 6 p.m. at Town Hall, General Purpose Room, 5 Academy Hill Road. All Interested Parties are encouraged to attend.

At 7 p.m., on a motion from Grace to adjourn, Brittany seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.