

Conway Conservation Commission Minutes
October 24, 2023, 6 p.m.
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

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

Others Present: None

Grace convened the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

On a motion from Grace to approve the minutes of October 10, 2023, Tony seconded, all said aye, and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial

None

Building Permits/Site Visits

- *Site Visit – Old Fields Hill Road, Lot 416-012-000*
Tony and Mary Kay conducted a site visit on 10/16.
- *Building Permit – 858 Graves Road - barn foundation restoration - signed off*
No water issues, so it has been signed off.

Forest Cutting Plans

None

Notices

None

Updates

- *Open Space – Update on Bigelow Property*

Hearings

6:10 p.m. – *P & R – Pickleball Court Construction – Continued*

The Parks and Recreation Committee has notified the Conservation Commission that they are withdrawing their RDA and seeking a different site for construction. On a motion from Tony to withdraw their application Mary Kay seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

6:15 p.m. – *Enforcement Order E. Stuart – Continued*

Though Mr. Stuart had been expected at this hearing, he was not in attendance. Grace

suggested that we give him a month to remove the structure, to deal with the building permit; and to clean up the site, including gas cans and other refuse. Another site visit would have to happen after. The enforcement order is to remove what's there - not to simply move it. He is illegally accessing the property through the South Deerfield Water District's road, which is clearly marked 'no trespassing'. On a motion from Grace to continue the hearing to November 14, Tony seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Other Unannounced Business

Green Burials: At 104 Wilder Hill Road, a request has been made for a 'Green Burial'. The Board of Health and Town Clerk will be doing a site visit, and as there may be water issues the ConComm is also involved. As this may likely be an ongoing issue in the future, we need to establish a procedure. Such a burial must be 300' away from any water and a permit will be needed. A November 7 site visit by the BoH and Town Clerk is planned and when a time is established, the Conservation Commission will be notified.

Next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 6 p.m. at Town Hall, General Purpose Room. If there is no meeting on the 28th, Grace will cancel that date and the next meeting would be on December 12. All interested parties are encouraged to attend.

At 6:30 on a motion from Grace to adjourn Tony seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.