

Conway Conservation Commission Minutes
February 13, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 5 Academy Hill Road

Present for the Conservation Commission: Grace Larson, Tony Somers, Louise Beckett, Brittany Nickerson

Others Present: Peter LaBarbera, Environmental Planning Associates, So. Deerfield, MA

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

On a motion from Grace to approve the Minutes of January 23, 2023, Brittany seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial

- Checks from Peter LaBarbera (\$75.00+ \$16.26): legal ad for 661 Graves Rd RDA
On a motion from Grace to accept the checks from Peter LaBarbera to pay for the ad
Tony seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Building Permits/Site Visits

- Building Permit – 259 Thompson Rd – Building Plans – Signed off

Forest Cutting Plans

None

Updates

It was noted that the Commission received a synopsis from Janet Chayes of the Open Space Committee's plans for maintenance of the Bigelow Property.

Hearings

- 6:10 p.m. – RDA – 661 Graves Rd – New Septic System Construction
Peter had brought a copy of the plan, and said he thought the new plan was an improvement on where the old septic had been. Setback from the property line and the wetlands. Tony asked about the grades in terms of gravity. Peter said they will need to go to a pump system. The tank size is the same (1,500). The new system is a replacement - not an improvement/expansion. On a motion from Grace to approve the new plan with a negative 3, Brittany seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor. The plan was then signed off on.

Other Business

- Ratify Updated Enforcement Order (Edward Stuart); postponed until next meeting.

- Ratify E Cert or Discuss Natural Roots Flooding issue
Heritage said the size and scope of the design exceeds what is allowed for an emergency and would not approve it. Can't go forward as an emergency cert, but should be under an NOI with an order of conditions. Nick is looking at the questions that Tony asked. If they got the NOI submitted while the design is being finalized, they would be ahead of the game. Issue is that they could have gone with Nick's plan but had to pay for it, or go with a more robust plan. Must be an NOI. Grace will inform Christian.

At 6:45 p.m. on a motion from Grace to adjourn, Tony seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Next meeting on February 27, 2024, will be held at the Town Office.