

Conway Conservation Commission Minutes
June 11, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall, General Purpose Room, 5 Academy Hill Road

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

Others Present: David Askew, Eversource; Joshua Surette, Epsilon

Grace Convened the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

On a motion from Grace to approve the minutes of May 28, 2024, Mary Kay seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial

None

Building Permits/Site Visits/Inquiries

- *Building Permit – 120 Main Poland Rd – Deck replacement. Site visit 6/3/2024*
No issues. There's an intermittent stream but not a problem, so it's been signed off.

- *Inquiry – Harmonium_Conway24 – 61 Hickory Ridge Road*
They are working with the Conway School of Landscape Design developing this property which is in priority habitat. What can we not do? Grace gave them basic information and contacted Mark Stinson. We don't know exactly what they're planning. They are grandfathered in with the house, but it's not clear that this project has anything to do with the current structure.

Forest Cutting Plans

None

Updates

None

Hearings

- *6:10 p.m. – Continued – NOI – Old Fields Hill Road, Lot 416-012*
Grace told Edward that if there were no objections he would not have to appear at the hearing. On a motion from Grace to approve the NOI, Brittany seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

- *6:20 p.m. – Eversource – Request for Certificate of Compliance*
On a motion from Grace to start Eversource earlier than the agenda's stated time of 6:20 p.m., Brittany seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Grace said that she and Louise had made a site visit on Sunday. It's difficult to see what's been

done – because of the amount of overgrowth – in terms of the turtles and shrub plantings. David responded that there's a line of gravel and behind the signage and gravel, all the shrubs (30) were put in. Grace asked about the snowmobile bridge noting that it's in bad shape. Joshua said that they don't use it or go there. Spirea and dogwood are there, planted in the fall of 2023. On the question of whether Eversource/Epsilon should be present for site visits, they said it's not necessary unless there are questions. They stated that they have finished this project. On a motion from Grace to approve the certificate of compliance for Eversource, Mary Kay seconded, all said aye and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Other Business

- *Discussion – Nexamp update*

On the site visit of June 8, it was noted that the grass is high and black flies were intense. Found two areas outside the fencing that are eroded. Probably increased due to the heavy flooding. Besides Nexamp's people, the engineers and the maintenance person were also present. The grass will be cut at the end of summer: it's done twice a year. We didn't see any pollinating plants. It was asked if they would use rip-rap on some areas. They proposed putting in 200 fern plants, but will send a proposal, with a heads-up to the abutters. They could create a berm, but there's probably no permanent fix at this time. The Planning Board will be meeting next week and Gerry Leblanc plans on being at that meeting.

- *Discussion – CPA and Con Com ideas/priorities – continued*

Conservation includes other committees: Open Space, Forest & Trails, Parks & Rec. There's probably more these committees want done than what Con Comm wants. ConComm would likely support the purchase by the Town of any land that is waterfront. It was noted that there are 530 road culverts on public land/roads in Conway.

- *Vacation or time away plans for June/July*

If anyone is taking vacation, please let Grace know so that she can plan our meetings accordingly.

Adjourn

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