

Conway Planning Board Minutes
Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 7 p.m.
Location: TOWN HALL

Present for the Planning Board: George Forcier, Chair; Jeff Lacy, Cheryl Case, Lara Matta Moebius.

Absent, associate member Joe Strzegowski, William Zale

1. Minutes of March 3, 2026, meeting approved unanimously.
2. Discussed Eversource plan to locate Mobile Battery Energy Storage System trailers temporarily for test of concept use on Wilder Hill Road and Shelburne Falls Road. Chair reported he told Eversource the board deemed the Shelburne Falls Road site to be too small to allow setbacks required in the zoning bylaw. The board has not heard anything further about whether the utility plans to seek site plan review for Wilder Hill Road.
3. Rural planning consultant Michael DeChiara of Shutesbury has agreed to attend the April 7 meeting to share his expertise about the state's new clean energy regulations for comprehensive municipal permits for solar farms and battery energy storage systems. The town must accommodate the new permitting process through town meeting vote sometime this fall.
4. The Blue Wave agri-voltaic solar farm application for Boyden Farm land off Roaring Brook Road has been received by the town. That starts a formal special permit and site plan review process expected to run several months. May 5 was set as the tentative date for opening the formal public hearing. Members scanned the looseleaf binder of application materials and a bundle of site plan maps, and discussed the timetable and procedures for conducting the extensive review. More discussion planned for March 31, after members have had time to review the application. Meanwhile,
 - Member Matta Moebius will explore the process for hiring engineering consultants to help with review of the technical aspects of the project.
 - Lacy will ask Blue Wave engineers for site slope maps, which don't seem to be in the application materials.
5. Lacy was named vice chair of the board to ensure continuity of leadership during the lengthy review and hearing process.
6. Meeting adjourned 8:45