

**TOWN OF GRANBY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
VIA ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2023**

PRESENT: David Roberts, Chairman; David Desiderato, Mindy Gould, Kara Marshall, Kent McCord, Zachary Donais

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Roberts confirmed a quorum and called the meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public present.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 11, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

ON A MOTION By D. Desiderato, seconded by M. Gould, the commission voted unanimously (4-0-0) to approve the minutes of April 11, 2023 as written. It should be noted that Z. Donais and K. Marshall arrived after approval of the minutes.

4. NON-INVASIVE ORDINANCE DRAFT PROPOSAL

D. Roberts noted Mark Fiorentino had contacted him to discuss the invasives ordinance. He would also like a member of the Commission to attend a Board of Selectmen meeting every few months to provide an update on Commission's activities.

5. JUNETEENTH

M. Gould reported she signed up for a table at Juneteenth and has not heard anything back as of this time. D. Roberts asked her to let the Commission know if she needs anything. She will send out an email for members to sign up for a time at the table.

6. SUSTAINABLE-CT NEXT STEPS

D. Roberts has not heard anything yet from Sustainable CT regarding the second submission.

7. LIBRARY PROGRAM

M. Gould noted there was a program on Dark Skies last night and the turnout was low. H. Johnson informed her attendance at the library programs tends to be smaller in the summer months and suggested the Commission hold their programs from September to November and February to May.

K. McCord feels experts on the topics could help bring people in. Also, he's unsure if a second EV program would be well attended. It would be helpful to reach individuals who are considering buying an electric vehicle. D. Desiderato pointed out there are no charging stations in town and if a summer program is held it should be regarding mosquitoes.

D. Roberts suggested different ways to get the word out regarding the library programs, talk to other groups and organizations in town.

8. DRUMMER ARTICLES

- D. Roberts reported he received several calls for yard signs after the article in The Drummer regarding the student who created the design.
- K. McCord has a mosquito article prepared for the June edition.

9. COMPOSTING

D. Roberts stated he recently spoke to M. Fiorentino regarding composting, and he would like to be kept updated. Granby is listed on the Blue Earth website and M. Gould will contact them to see how many people have signed up.

10. MEETING TOPICS FOR JUNE 13, 2023

- Invasives Ordinance
- Sustainable CT Update
- Community Outreach (in place of Drummer Articles/Library Program)
- Future of Town Center (ways the Commission can contribute)

11. FINAL COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Z. Donais spoke to Abby Kenyon regarding an invasives ordinance. She feels it would be best to do this as an amendment to zoning regulations regarding new developments and invited him to give a presentation at an upcoming Planning & Zoning meeting. Z. Donais will create a draft and send it to other Commission members for their review.
- M. Gould inquired what the process is for creating a regulation. The first step is to go to Planning and Zoning and then the Board of Selectmen.
- D. Roberts asked members to take turns attending the Board of Selectmen meetings regarding commission updates. Z. Donais will be the first to attend and will discuss the possible invasives ordinance.
- D. Roberts reported The Grange would like to establish a garden on their property. Some suggestions included a community garden, pumpkin garden, bee keeping, etc.
- Some bulbs were moved at the Wildflower Meadow due to the heavy rains and seeds are germinating.
- D. Desiderato had information regarding someone who is interested in joining the Commission. He will pass the information to D. Roberts to contact the individual.

12. ADJOURN

ON A MOTION BY M. Gould, seconded by D. Desiderato, the commission voted unanimously (6-0-0) to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kane
Recording Secretary