

Whately Conservation Commission
Wednesday, January 15, 2020
Whately Town Offices, 4 Sandy Lane, Whately MA 01093

Commissioners present: Andrew Ostrowski, Montserrat Archbald, George Owens, and Scott Jackson (Chair)

Commissioners absent: Ann Barker

Others present: Chris and Jennifer Kellogg, George Colt, Peter Gauthier, Paul McEnaney, Joe Wokawicz, Roberta Reardon, Meredith Morrison, Stephen S. Kloc, Shelley H. Futter, Tony Wonseski (SVE Associates)

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

1. Public Hearing for Julie Beauchemim Notice of Intent for construction of a 1.9 MW large ground-mounted solar facility at 164 Chestnut Plain Road. Tony Wonseski, representing the applicant, reported that abutters for this project had not been properly notified and acknowledged that the public hearing and presentation of the project would have to be postponed until the Commission's February 19th meeting. Several people in attendance for the public hearing expressed concern about the lack of notification. The chair engaged the public in a discussion about the Commission's jurisdiction and procedures. The public hearing will be re-scheduled for February 19, 2020 and a new public notice will be published in the Daily Hampshire Gazette.
2. Public Hearing for Town of Whately Notice of Intent for construction of a water pumping station adjacent to the cemetery on Chestnut Plain Road. The Commission Chair (Jackson) announced that the applicant for this project was not ready for the public hearing and requested a continuance to the February 19th meeting. The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to continue the hearing until 7:40 pm on February 19, 2020.
3. Updates and other business
 - The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to support the Town's application for a Conservation Assistance for Small Communities Grant Program to fund the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to provide assistance to the Town in updating its Open Space and Recreation Plan.
 - The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to authorize the Chair to send a comment letter to MassDEP regarding proposed regulation changes, specifically, to oppose the proposed requirement that conservation commissions send all forms to MassDEP via certified mail return receipted required.
4. The Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to accept minutes from the December 18th meeting.
5. The Commission reviewed the mail.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Jackson