

**TOWN OF GRANBY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
VIA ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 14, 2023**

PRESENT: David Desiderato, Mindy Gould, Kara Marshall, Zachary Donais

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chairman Mindy Gould confirmed a quorum and called the meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

D. Desiderato noted that under ‘Invasive Species’ it stated he and Z. Donais met with Abby Kenyon. He noted only Z. Donais met with Abby.

ON A MOTION By D. Desiderato, seconded K. Marshall, the commission voted unanimously (4-0-0) to approve the minutes as corrected.

4. COMPOSTING

- Currently, there are approximately 22 individuals on the waiting list for Blue Earth. Z. Donais attempted to contact a co-worker to inquire if there are other alternatives. He has not heard back and will attempt to contact him tomorrow.
- M. Gould encouraged members to speak to their friends about joining Blue Earth. She will add information to social media.
- K. Marshall suggested contacting apartment/condominium complexes. D. Desiderato inquired if Blue Earth has promotional information that could be displayed in community rooms of the complexes. M. Gould noted she has pamphlets. K. Marshall will create a list of all the apartment and condominium complexes in town. D. Desiderato offered to reach out to two of the complexes to speak to them on this topic. Once the list is created, other members will be assigned one or two complexes to contact.

5. BUSINESS FOOD WASTE

A clause in the State regulations notes a town that is not within 20 miles of a processing site does not have to comply with separating food waste from the waste stream, although this will no longer be the case in 2025. K. Marshall felt this could be used as an educational tool to inform businesses what is happening. M. Gould will reach out to the Chamber of Commerce to get a list of restaurants in town. She will also look into matching grant opportunities through Sustainable CT to see what those grants entail.

6. INVASIVE SPECIES

Z. Donais and D. Desiderato provided a presentation regarding invasives to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Z. Donais will contact A. Kenyon regarding next steps for the Commission.

D. Desiderato noted the visit to Stony Hill Village regarding invasives went very well and they had a successful day on Day Street South as well.

7. SUSTAINABLE CT

- K. Marshall and M. Gould went to The American Mural Project and noted it was interesting to see what other's towns did regarding the completion of their projects.
- The town's plaque arrived and will be displayed at Town Hall.
- D. Roberts and M. Gould provided a presentation at the last Board of Selectmen meeting regarding obtaining Bronze Status. M. Fiorentino inquired what the commission's plan is going forward. The process entails increasing certification level or re-certify bronze status in three years.

There was a brief discussion among the commission on how they wanted to proceed. Z. Donais noted he would like to focus on things that individuals are compassionate about, i.e., composting, invasives, etc. He prefers doing worthwhile projects that will improve the town.

The next meeting will include looking at projects that are short and medium term. M. Gould asked members to review their categories to determine what is at risk and what their passion is.

8. WEBPAGE

Previously, D. Desiderato had requested a contact be added to the Commission's website page, as well as a link to The Drummer articles. Kathy will investigate adding her information as the contact and the process to provide a link to the articles.

9. FINAL COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

10. ADJOURN

ON A MOTION By K. Marshall, seconded by D. Desiderato, the Conservation Commission voted unanimously (4-0-0) to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kane
Recording Secretary