

**Barrington Conservation Commission
March 28, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**

IN PERSON LOCATION: Town of Barrington (NEW TOWN HALL) 4 Signature Drive
(1/4-mile North of the Old Town Hall) Barrington, NH 03825

Join Teams

Barrington Conservation Commission Meeting – Virtual Access

Meeting Access

Remote Meeting Participation

Video: barrington.nh.gov/ccmeeting

Call: [+1 603-664-0240](tel:+16036640240) (one-click link)

Conference ID: 666 455 706#

MEMBERS PRESENT

Doug Bogen, Chair
Jack Gale, Vice Chair/Treasurer
Rob Gibson, Selectboard liaison
Paul Panish
Ken Grossman
Anne Melvin, alternate (via remote)
Dan Cassidy, alternate (via remote)

ABSENT

Gary Imbrie
Scott Heron, alternate
Charlie Tatham, alternate

Call to order Barrington Conservation Commission (BCC) Chair Doug Bogen called the meeting of March 28, 2024 to order at 7:05.

Delegation of voting members Chair Doug Bogen confirmed the presence of members as above, with Dan serving as a voting member.

Minutes review and approval The minutes of March 14, 2024 were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report (Jack Gale) A deposit of \$1100 on 3/5, interest of \$1401.40 on 3/25, and a balance of \$553,769.57.

Guests: Steve Hobbs to observe

NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- **Statement on Young Rd. project for PB** Ken shared that he feels a lot of what the developer has said is not community minded. It was noted that there are still details about the project yet to be finalized, such as square footage of impervious surface. If the PB denies the project, Ken stated the CC should support the PB's position; he suggested that the CC file an amicus curiae brief if warranted. For the present time it was decided that the CC endorse Paul's written statement and reiterate previous comments sent to the town planner. **Ken made a motion to approve Paul's statement:**

The CC is of the opinion that this development contradicts the intent of the conservation subdivision objectives, Zoning Ordinance 6.1(1) – 6.1(9), as well as ignoring key guidelines, the core of which is clustered development. This is clearly demonstrated in Barrington Subdivision Regulations 10.1...Authority and Purpose which states “the Planning Board may approve the creation of Conservation Subdivisions, which are also referred to as cluster subdivisions”.

This is also implied in the Zoning Ordinance, Section 6.3.2(3) which states “the Planning Board may also require an applicant to submit a second Conceptual Development Plan that illustrates a conventional subdivision layout, based on the town’s zoning and subdivision standards, for a non-clustered development on the proposed site.”

The Conservation Commission clearly disagrees that this plan acts to conserve the characteristics of the property in question.

We would urge the Planning Board to use whatever discretionary power they have regarding intent or other technical factors to deny approval of this plan. If the Planning Board chooses to do so it will have the full support of the CC.

Jack seconded the motion, which passed unanimously with a vote of five (5) to zero (0) in favor.

- Turtle crossing signs It was decided to go with the least expensive turtle crossing signs, and Jack will look into purchasing them.
- Richardson Pond Eco Study Doug signed the proposal from Mark West and sent it to Conner and Jack for payment.
- Monitoring
- Purchase of lots 248-0001 and 248-0002 to expand Town Forest
- Land for energy use Paul suggested that the CC start thinking about what public opinion is on land use for green energy.

CASES BEFORE THE PLANNING BOARD

No New Cases until April 17, 2024, for May 7, 2024

Public Concerns

It was mentioned that the two power plants in NH will be shut down with New Hampshire's Merrimack Station in Bow closing by June 1, 2028, and potentially one year earlier than that. Schiller Station in Portsmouth, which hasn't operated in recent years, will shut down its coal-fired boilers no later than December 31, 2025.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Lands Committee, Trails Committee, Lake Associations
- B. Isinglass River, Oyster River, and Lamprey River Local Advisory Committees.

Sightings included towhees, robins, mourning doves, and ring-necked ducks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Lenzi

