

**Town of Blandford**  
**Conservation Commission Minutes**  
**June 26, 2023 6:00 PM**

**Commission Members in attendance:** Dick Gates, John Piper, and Nate Maynard

**Other:** John Hoppe (Russell Hwy Department)

**I. Approving Meeting Minutes**

D Gates made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 5/22 and 6/12. J Piper seconded. Passed unanimously.

**II. New Business**

- a. **Public Hearing Town of Russell: Request for Determination – Culvert Replacement at Russell Watershed at Martin Phelps Rd.**

D Gates and J Piper visited the site with J Hoppe. Main question: does the area constitute an active water supply, answer is no. Exemption doesn't apply due to this. Working with Mark Stinson with DEP.

- Positive determination of RDA
- Next step would require an NOI

D Gates made a motion of positive determination for the RDA and next step requires completing an NOI. J Piper seconded. Passed unanimously.

**III. Continuing Business**

- a. **Update – Belle Fleur Mass DEP File # 111-0059**

Salvini associates provided a report of compliance with AOOC and erosion controls for the project site. The report stated that work limits need to be more clearly defined. It also indicated that there are trees flagged for cutting in jurisdictional areas that would require an amended permit.

- Rolandy Romelus of Belle Fleur not available until July
- Prudent next steps: provide Salvini's report to Belle Fleur.
- Highlight issues contained within report and request them to be addressed by a specific date.
- Failure to comply would require an enforcement order.

D Gates made a motion to forward Salvini's site assessment to Belle Fleur with a requirement to address concerns within three weeks of receipt. J Piper seconded. Passed unanimously.

- b. **Conway School Design**

The final report has been issued. D Gates suggested sending a letter of thanks and acknowledgment to the graduate students at Conway School for their thorough and comprehensive assessment of the Shepard Farm parcel. Next steps include determining what to do with the house and whether any portion of it can be saved or used onsite as a historical marker. ConCom wants to schedule a walk to investigate the Springfield Sewer and Water access land as a potential parking area (move the gate further back).

**c. Status of Conservation Agent**

Applicant for position, N Pietroniro, well qualified. ConCom provides support for the candidate and will express this to the Select Board and Town Admin.

**D Gates made a motion to support hiring Nicolas Pietroniro for the Conservation Agent Position. J Piper seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Aileen Dwyer  
John L. Piper  
Arthur Gates