

## **TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

### **MEETING Minutes**

For the Westhampton Conservation Commission meeting on September 15, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in their office at the Westhampton Town Hall, #1 South Road Westhampton

Members Present: Fred, Bill, Jessica (recording)

Also in attendance: Kristin De Boer (Kestrel Land Trust)

1. Call to Order            7:00 pm

2. Accept Minutes meeting of: August 4, 2021 and Special Open Meeting August 24, 2021; new member, Bill Randolph

3. Review correspondence: Ongoing emails between Rob Miller, project manager for solar site and Fred; drone photos by Phil Dowling; Ann Blank, PIL; Forest Cutting Plan—Burt Road, Cowls property owners

4. Old/Ongoing Business: Site Visit on 8/28/2021: Fred visited Peter Whalen's property, 44 Pine Island Lake; dead tree removal, routine maintenance; Cons Com grants permission;

Montague Rd., Solar Panel Site: Certificate of Compliance requirements: based on previous site visits and Phil Dowling's drone photos of the area, erosion into the wetlands remains the biggest problem to be corrected. Therefore, before Cons Com issues Certificate of Compliance, bare ground must be reseeded, silt fence and wattles must be removed from North field and silt fence must be reconfigured near the vernal pool; It was suggested that it may be a good idea to hire a consultant to finish the job; additional site visit to be scheduled before issuing (partial) Certificate of Compliance; Fred will send email to Rob Miller and Cons Com will plan to visit site in October to check on progress

5. New Business: Green Burial Massachusetts/Kestrel Land Trust—proposal for green conservation cemetery; Kristin De Boer (Kestrel) presenting, also on behalf of Green Burial Massachusetts; proposed site is located on a few acres within 220 acres of forest/old gravel operation in Westhampton and Northampton, consisting of woodlands, wetlands, and open fields.

Kestrel and Green Burial will visit site and do fieldwork to determine environmental impact and suitability of site as a conservation cemetery; they will perform tests—soil and hydrological analysis, geology, drainage, etc. (Cold Spring Environmental).

6. Agenda next mtg to Town Clerk's mailbox: Agenda/Notice will be sent to Town Clerk for October 6, 2021

7. Adjourn: 7:59pm