**Town of Granby**
**Conservation Commission**
**Regular Meeting**
**May 12, 2026 at 7 pm**
**Via Zoom**
**Minutes – Subject to Approval**

## 1. Roll Call

Present: David Desiderato, Zach Donais, Will Madsen, Kara Marshall, and Kent McCord
The meeting opened at 7:03 pm

## 2. Public Comment

No members of the public attended.

## 3. Review of the March 25 and April 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Kent McCord moved that the March 25th minutes be approved, and Zach Donais seconded the motion. David Desiderato moved that the April 14th minutes be approved, and Will Madsen seconded the motion. Both sets of minutes were approved without modification.

## 4. Continued Farm Lease Conversation

Kara Marshall reported that she had shared with Mike Walsh and Mark Fiorentino the recommendations for soil testing on town owned property developed by the commissioners at the April meeting. Walsh and Fiorentino were open to expanded soil testing to inform the next lease if the Conservation commission is able to provide volunteers to apply for funding and conduct soil tests. At this meeting, the Commissioners discussed timing of testing and how to best coordinate funding applications. All commissioners felt it is important to conduct additional tests in 2026 and are willing to volunteer time to make it happen.

Action Item: Kara Marshall will reach out to the Agricultural Commission for feedback and to develop a testing plan.

## 5. Energy Conservation & Renewables on Town Property

Kara Marshall reported that CHA Solutions and Eversource presented the results of the energy opportunity scoping study to Mike Walsh on May 11. CHA identified energy saving opportunities in the Town Hall, Senior Center, Library, Police Station, and Town Garage. Walsh received the recommendations positively and indicated his desire to move forward in all the project except the Library because of the proposed major renovations. Mike indicated that he would use the report to create an RFP and scope the project to propose it for the fiscal year 2027-2028 budget. Once the town has a quote for the work, Eversource will review for incentive offers based on the energy savings. Dana Mowry, an Energy Efficiency Consultant with Eversource, encourage the town to move forward with weatherization projects as soon as possible because Granby qualifies for a 100% incentive.

Kent McCord reported that he continues to reach out to solar developers to get proposals for the Town Garage and new Holcomb Farm CSA buildings, however none have responded with a positive proposal for a project.

**6. Broadleaf Solar**

Kara Marshall shared that Abby Kenyon and Mark Fiorentino invited the Conservation and other commissioners to attend the May 18th Board of Selectmen meeting where Broadleaf Solar would be making a presentation about their application to the Connecticut Siting council for the project at 90 Salmon Brook Street and 35 Floydville Road.

Action Item: Kara Marshall to pass this recommendation from the April meeting on to the First Selectman

**7. Composting**

Will Madsen reported that he had further conversation with David Aldridge of Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA). Madsen invited Aldridge to present to the Conservation Commission at the July 14 meeting. At that meeting, the Commission will discuss how to set up the infrastructure to enable composting. For example, the City of New Haven has established several collection stations that allow residents to drop off compost at convenient locations. According to Madsen, Aldridge said that collaboration for neighboring towns could create efficiencies of scale that would attract grant funding for developing infrastructure. The Commission discussed the logistics of a public meeting with the representative from SCRRA and was enthusiastic about the opportunity.

Action Item: Will Madsen to confirm Aldridge's availability for the July 14th meeting and to reach out to the heads of the conservation commissions of East Granby or Simsbury to discuss collaboration to develop composting infrastructure.

**8. Bear Mitigation Education**

No information to discuss.

Action Item: Kara Marshall to inform Mike Walsh that we will include bear education in our composting outreach campaign.

**9. Plan of Conservation & Development**

No information to discuss.

Action Item: Kara Marshall to determine if a representative to the POCD is needed from among the commissioners.

**10. Meeting Topics for July 9, 2026**

Commissioners recommended removing Bear Mitigation Education but keeping the other topics.

## 11. Final Comments from Commissioners

Kara Marshall thanked the Commissioners for their efforts.

## 12. Adjourn

The Commission adjourned at 7:49 pm

Minutes Prepared by Kara Marshall



May 11, 2026