**Minutes from the Executive Session of the
Wales Conservation Commission Feb. 25, 2021 meeting**

The WCC went into executive session in order to discuss the procedures for pre-screening applicants for the Peer Review of the Sunpin Solar application.

The executive session lasted roughly 15 minutes.

The commissioners discussed which firms should be contacted first and which others might be potential peer reviewers.

It was then discussed which aspects of the application the commission would ask the firms to review, including stormwater management, wetlands delineation, and the assessment of vernal pools onsite.

The commission also discussed how it would handle potential conflicts of interest on the part of the firms selected – would a past association with the applicants (Sunpin) be enough to disqualify them from consideration, or would it require a current and active engagement with Sunpin.

The members then discussed past peer review experiences including with the Wales Solar (Union Road) project.

The consensus appeared to be that with the number of solar projects being undertaken in the state, it could be difficult to locate three or more separate firms willing to undertake the current peer review. It was determined that it would be in the best interest of this process to cast as broad a net as possible, and consider potential conflicts of interest on a case by case basis.

Norma Thompson was to contact Brimfield and other area ConComms in order to gain a perspective on how they had conducted their past peer reviews.

Rob Herbert was selected to be the main point of contact for the initial approach to the potential firms. It was discussed that the WCC might need to create a standard RFP document that could be sent out to all potential firms.

No deliberations were conducted and no votes taken on any application during this session.