

## DERRY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

April 6, 2026

Municipal Center

**-Call to Order:** Chairman Buzzanga called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**-Roll Call:** Riccardo Buzzanga, Rick Metts, Robert Spoerl, Eileen Chabot, Christopher Morlock, Jay Hildreth, Chery Holbert, Pamela Pirro, Linda Comrie, Val Connolly, Land Manager Elizabeth Carver and Commission Liaison Charles Foote.

**-Approval of Minutes:** Chairman Buzzanga referred to the Minutes of March 16, 2026.

Commission Metts **MOVED** to approve the Minutes and Nonpublic Minutes of March 16, 2026, as amended. Commissioner Chabot seconded the Motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous 7-0

**-Chair's Report:** Chairman Buzzanga stated the Commission continues to be very busy with many people working behind the scenes between meetings. He continues to speak with Beth Carver, Land Manager, in setting the direction of the Commission and trying to organize and highlight the Commission's goals. Work continues in the development of a scoring procedure for the Commission's goals, to ensure what is best for the community.

**-Correspondence:** Chairman Buzzanga updated the Commission had received a newsletter from SELT, titled "Migrating Marshes in a Changing Climate."

**-Officer Elections:**

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to nominate Commissioner Riccardo Buzzanga for another term as Chair. Commissioner Chabot seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Cheryl Holbert -Yes

Jay Hildreth- Yes

Rick Metts- Yes

Robert Spoerl-Yes

Eileen Chabot-Yes

Val Connolly-Yes

Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes

**Yes Vote: 7-0**

Commissioner Buzzanga **MOVED** to nominate Commissioner Richard Metts for another term as Vice Chair. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Cheryl Holbert -Yes  
Jay Hildreth- Yes  
Rick Metts- Yes  
Robert Spoerl-Yes  
Eileen Chabot-Yes  
Val Connolly-Yes  
Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes  
**Yes Vote: 7-0**

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to nominate Commissioner Chabot as Treasurer. Commissioner Buzzanga seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Cheryl Holbert -Yes  
Jay Hildreth- Yes  
Rick Metts- Yes  
Robert Spoerl-Yes  
Eileen Chabot-Yes  
Val Connolly-Yes  
Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes  
**Yes Vote: 7-0**

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to nominate Commissioner Hildreth as Secretary. Commissioner Buzzanga seconded the Motion.

**Roll Call Vote:** Cheryl Holbert -Yes  
Jay Hildreth- Yes  
Rick Metts- Yes  
Robert Spoerl-Yes  
Eileen Chabot-Yes  
Val Connolly-Yes  
Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes  
**Yes Vote: 7-0**

#### **-Committee Chair Appointments:**

Commissioner Buzzanga nominated the following Chairs to Conservation Committees:  
Personnel: Commissioner Metts; TRC: Commissioner Buzzanga; Land Acquisition: Commissioner Metts;  
State Compliance: Commissioner Chabot; Public Outreach: Commissioner Holbert; Community Garden:  
Commissioner Hildreth; Land Maintenance: Commissioner Spoerl; Reporting Compliance: Commissioner  
Connolly; Property Manager: Commissioner Buzzanga. Commissioner Metts seconded the MOTION.

**Roll Call Vote:** Cheryl Holbert -Yes  
Jay Hildreth- Yes  
Rick Metts- Yes  
Robert Spoerl-Yes  
Eileen Chabot-Yes  
Val Connolly-Yes  
Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes  
**Yes Vote: 7-0**

**-Update on Broadview Annex:** Commissioner Hildreth shared a draft “Management Plan for 10 Young Road” that he updated on April 6, 2026. He reviewed with the Commission the property and the ongoing learning of its history. He continues working with the Heritage Commission regarding the land’s history. He reviewed future recommendations for the property with regard to the land’s environmental considerations. He shared some of the factors regarding New Hampshire Wetlands Permit Exemptions and addressed other sources for future uses and plans. He spoke of his experiences in observing the potential vernal pools and took photo images. There is an established south to north channel of water that diverges to the northwest vernal pool. He will work with Commissioner Connolly to continue to gather more information to add to the database that has been created. The annual mowing may take place in the fall. He will continue to follow New Hampshire’s Wildlife Action Plan for further guidance. The vernal pool studies continue and getting familiar with hydrology is ongoing for this property.

**-Community Garden:** Commissioner Hildreth updated some of the action items from a previous subcommittee meeting. A seed starting video was produced by Land Manger, Beth Carver and Alternate Commissioner Comrie and a video of planting onions and leeks was also created. He also posted to Facebook soil test results and described the recommendations for gardeners.

**-Personnel:** Commissioner Metts reported no changes.

**-Public Outreach:** Commissioner Holbert thanked Commissioner Chabot, Alternate Commissioner Comrie and Land Manger Beth Carver in her absence for their productive meeting where they spoke about trail work events and possible dates for them. She reviewed some dates that will need to be confirmed later. In honor of Earth Day, Commissioner Chabot volunteered to pass out bags and gloves at the Coffee Factory. Progress with new ideas continues.

**-TRC:** Commissioner Metts made mention of the Lane Road subdivision with an existing home project by McMaster Development who are active in protecting wetlands. The project at 10 Manchester Road is a commercial tear down and redevelopment with no wetlands impact. Royal T Carwash came before the TRC Board to gain permission to move vacuums due to the 4A development. The last topic of a 12A Street project, owned by Ipse Deligo, which will be a testing facility for pressure washing tanks was addressed. They talked about whether their internal drain was big enough should they expand at some point. The drainage will be just roof runoff; no detergents or chemicals will be flushed down the drains. Testing components will be reclaimed inside. There will be no impact to sewer systems.

**-State Compliance:** Commissioner Chabot reviewed upcoming events available happening soon. NHCC sent out “Make your Turtle Sightings Count” on May 12, 2026. This zoom event takes place at 5:30 p.m., it will be recorded. An in-person event on turtles, “Land Management Practices for New Hampshire Turtles” will take place on June 8, 2026, to be held in Walpole, New Hampshire with more information available on the NHCC Website. This is a free event, and registration can be completed on the Website. Public Hearings coming up include “Alteration of Terrain regulations” taking place on April 17, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Department of Environmental Services in Concord. Attendance in person or online is available. Edward McKenna is the point of contact. There is a public hearing coming up regarding what is happening with the drinking water rules. This Environmental DW 300 hearing will be on April 30, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., also at The Department of Environmental Services in room 208C. Attendance can be in person or online.

**- Property Management:** Chairman Buzzanga reported they are working on 2 challenges currently. One is a potential encroachment on a Conservation property by a potential abutter with signs. The second

matter is a hazardous tree removal issue that is abutting onto the owner's property. Ms. Carver is seeking appraisals for tree removal.

**-Land Maintenance:** Commissioner Spoerl stated most of the properties are now snow free and everyone is anxious to get out on the trails. They will be meeting later this week to plan.

**-Land Acquisition:** Chairman Buzzanga updated there are still two active projects. He will be seeking guidance on the larger parcel when Commissioners have had a chance to walk the property. He also spoke of Town disposal of properties list that may have conservation value. He will share the list with the Commission during the next meeting for discussion.

**-Reporting Compliance:** Commissioner Connolly did not have any current updates.

**-New Zero Task Force:** Commissioner Connolly reported the last meeting was cancelled.

**-Council Liaison Report:** Counselor Foote updated the recent election in March; the town has two new councilors. Returning member Dave Mills is the Counselor at Large, Dan Healy is the District III Counselor. Erin Spencer will be the Chair, with Jack Webb as the Vice-Chair. The Ashleigh Drive project is listed on the Consent Agenda for the Councils' next meeting. Public Hearings will follow. Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>. On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Pinkerton National Honor Society will be assisting Councilor Foote with the cleaning of veterans' headstones at the Forest Hills Cemetery. Anyone interested in helping on either of those days is encouraged to contact Councilor Foote. Chairman Buzzanga asked about expanding the funds the town allocates for administration fees, while also reminding that the Commission is otherwise self-funded.

**-Land Manager Report:** Ms. Carver updated the Community Garden registration opened on April 1, 2026. As of today, there have been 28 inquiries with 35 of the 36 plots claimed. Two raised beds remain unclaimed. The private Facebook group page for community gardeners has been a source for photos in community outreach. The same person who tilled the gardens will be able to do the same again this year. The date will be dependent on the weather. Cow manure will be spread as well. With the new NHACC initiative, and a meeting with Ms. Richter, a date for the Bio Blitz was confirmed for June 27, 2026, with a time to be determined later at Broadview Farm. A representative from Moose Wood Ecological will be present to show how to identify different species. An online training will be available for Commissioners on how to use "iNaturalist" and they will also set up an account for the Commission for future use. Work continues with the Community Wildfire Protection Plan with a recent discussion panel that was televised. A landing page for the community is available on the Town Website under the Conservation Commission. A field assessment was done at Cole Marsh this past weekend. There were fire adapted communities discovered there. On May 2, 2026, a Wildfire Community Preparedness Day will be held. Another place for leaf disposal has been identified and will be good for this fall season only.

**-Other Business:** Chairman Buzzanga updated about a meeting he had with Owen Provencher of "Derry Cam" prior to the meeting to discuss documenting the Commissions' progress. They also talked about projects for the month of May happening with Mr. Provencher to highlight. They also discussed informing folks about Conservation activities. He thanked and commended Land Manager, Beth Carver, for her tireless work between meetings.

-Commissioner Metts suggested rescheduling the July 6, 2026, Conservation meeting as many will be away during this time. They decided to move the meeting to July 13, 2026.

At 8:07 p.m., Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to Adjourn. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.

**Vote: Unanimous**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tamara Lampes, Recording Secretary

*Jay McElreath*