

DERRY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

April 20, 2026

Municipal Center

-Call to Order: Chairman Buzzanga called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

-Roll Call: Cheryl Holbert, Jay Hildreth, Rick Metts, Robert Spoerl, Pam Pirro, Linda Comrie, Val Connolly, Riccardo Buzzanga, Land Manager Elizabeth Carver and Town Council Liaison Charles Foote. Eileen Chabot and Christopher Morlock were not present.

-Approval of Minutes: Chairman Buzzanga referred to the Minutes of April 6, 2026.

Commissioner Metts made a **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of April 6, 2026, as amended. Commissioner Spoerl seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

-Chairman Buzzanga asked Commissioner Comrie to sit in for Commissioner Eileen Chabot.

-Chairs Report: Chairman Buzzanga stated the Commission continues to keep a busy schedule in between meetings with correspondence, numerous Town departments and Town leadership. Weekly calls with the Land Manager, Elizabeth Carver, continue.

-Correspondence: The Annual Report from Rockingham County Conservation District.

-Site Plan Review: PID:51084, 74 Beaver Lake Ave. Owners Comeau's Beach Redevelopment, LLC – (Kevin Coyle) Surveyor: Promised Land Survey, LLC. 2-Lot Subdivision with Presenter Brandon Wing.

-Chairman Buzzanga shared that he and fellow Commissioner Chabot had conducted a site walk previously. Mr. Wing has spoken with the Department of Environmental Services and spoken with the Technical Review Committee.

-Brandon Wing of Promised Land Survey stated the plan had been before the Commission previously. Chairman Buzzanga stated the proposed subdivision plan would need to be voted on by the Commission due to the wetland impact. Mr. Wing said there was a building in the wetland. There is also a failed drainage system. Chairman Buzzanga summarized the subdivision plan needs a signature by the chair and reiterated when the Department of Environmental Services issues the permit, the Commission will get notified and then they can comment on that permit. For this evening's work, the Commission will receive a presentation for the subdivision. Mr. Wing added he had received the impact permit for the removal of the building and restoration of the wetland, as part of meeting the requirements of the subdivision from the Commission. Mr. Wing explained there is enough frontage and land for a two-lot subdivision. A variance was received for access on a non-town approved road for Jenny Dickey Hill Road for the second lot. There are existing easements on the property for access for some who live on the lake, along with sewer easements owned by the town of Derry. There are rights to several of the abutters to use the beach area. Mr. Wing in the subdivision plan is working to better define items such as rights that are named but not clearly defined. The plan now achieves safe site distance per town regulations. Regarding the biggest issue, the wet land located at the back, Mr. Wing has taken through the permitting process with the Department of Environmental Service. They are proposing to remove the exiting beach house and failed drainage to restore the wetland instead of trying to fix the failing

drainage. Commissioner Metts asked if it was a small gravel path that would be crossed near the beach area. Mr. Wing explained they are proposing a walkway where the building is because there are rights that exist to use the beach according to the deeds.

-Regarding the Department of Environmental Service aspect, the existing building is in the wetland. Mr. Wing explained once the building was removed, it would become a wetland. He has obtained an Impact Permit to dredge and fill, and to remove the building with excavating equipment. It has a minimum impact being less than 3000 square feet. It will then be seeded with two different wetland mix seeds. The wetland will be restored with the exception of the gravel path. Chairman Buzzanga asked if this would change the wetland permit at all? Mr. replied he did not know but when the building is removed, they will have to see how the wetland behaves and what it will look like. He will return for an amended permit if needed. The Commission discussed the gravel work as opposed to a boardwalk that would require continued maintenance.

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to approve the plan and have the Chair sign the plans as presented for 74

Comeau's Beach. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote: Cheryl Holbert-Yes

Jay Hildreth-Yes

Richard Metts-Yes

Robert Spoerl-Yes

Linda Comrie-Yes

Val Connolly-Yes

Riccardo Buzzanga-No

Vote: Yes 6-1

-**Community Garden Report:** Commissioner Hildreth updated the plan is in place for Broadview Garden to be amended with soil and manure. It will be tilled the week prior to the planned Saturday event where gardeners will meet and together help in staking the plots. A demonstration on how to create a raised bed is also planned, along with a plant exchange. Gardening, seeding and putting plants can then begin much earlier than last year due to the dry conditions. The donation and delivery of the manure is very much appreciated by the Commission and town. The recommended fertilizer that was recommended is being asked to be funded by the Commission. The current state of the soil is impoverished.

Commissioner Buzzanga **MOVED** to approve spending up to \$780 on fertilizer that was discussed. Commissioner Metts seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

-**Personnel:** Commissioner Metts stated no new updates.

-**Public Outreach:** Commissioner Holbert updated there have been many Facebook posting with the last being "Earth Day Cleanup". New events added to the Commission's calendar include the Land Managers work with the "Wildfire Community Preparedness" for May 2, 20026. June 27, 2026, is the scheduled "Bio- Blitz Day" at Broadview Farm. Some Commissioners will be present at the Dairy Farmer's Market. There will be a "We Grow Wednesday in August.

-**Technical Review Committee:** Commission Metts referred to a two-lot subdivision plan was presented which has significant wetland impact on it. They will be tentatively before the Commission at the May 4, 2026, meeting.

-Property Management: Commissioner Buzzanga updated communication had been received by a representative who is with an organization called ECO Ecological Land Management and Stewardship, LLC. This organization provides support services to Conservation Commissions in the form of mowing, trail maintenance and other work that the Commission has had trouble securing. Land Manager Elizabeth Carver will be reaching out to them in the future. Tree work will continue. A new low impact machine called a spider lift that proves to be economical and can be flexible and workable in uneven terrain and may be used for this tree work. The Margie Ives Conservation Property sign was altered due to some snow, and it will be fixed with available funds.

-Land Maintenance: Commissioner Spoerl updated there had been a meeting and another scheduled for May 14, 2026, with regard to stewardship.

-Land Acquisition: Commissioner Buzzanga asked if anyone had walked the property the Commission is currently considering. There are currently 3 projects that are being pursued.

-Reporting Compliance: Commissioner Connolly did not have anything new to report.

-Net Zero Task Force: Commissioner Connolly updated the task force continues to watch legislation for the project Commissioner Connolly did an educational brochure did for people in terms of international energy, conservation codes and efficiency codes. The State was looking to push them up to 2024 as required for new builds, however, it fell back again. They are also hearing reporting on the new parking garage, metering at the solar field and feedback on the towns' electric vehicles.

-Council Liaison Report: Councilor Foote shared he had spoken with the Town Administrator and they will propose roughly \$12,800 in addition to the \$5,000 funding the Commission normally receives for 3 years. A Public Hearing will take place on April 21, 2026, to accept an easement for the Ashleigh Drive/ Scobie Pond area. There will also be new business for the Broadview Farm Agreement with a new contract.

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to direct the Town Council to negotiate with the Town Administrator that the funds if the \$750 cannot be given in like, or kind, the \$750 in funds goes into the Conservation Commission Land Acquisition Fund. Commissioner Connolly seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

The Commission spoke of the availability of access to straw for Broadview Farm. Chairman Buzzanga spoke of the budget set aside through a forestry fund that pays Commission employees, which will be exhausted this year. Next year the Commission will use the Administration Fund to pay for employees.

-Land Management Report: Ms. Carver updated all 36 plots have been claimed including the raised beds with 30 individuals involved with the community garden. An email was shared with the group explaining how the community garden works. Derry Cam and the Wetherby Family will provide a guided tour of Cole Marsh, that video is now in the works. Aurora Wetherby is currently a Land Steward at Cole Marsh. Marion Garish has put out a request for community groups to participate in "What's the Scoop" which will be held on Monday, May 18, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. There will also be online training with a member of Moose Wood Ecological on the use of iNaturalist, which will be used to do the Bio Blitz. That training will be held on June 1, 2026, which will be televised and open to the public as well. The Community Wildlife Protection Plan is progressing and nearing completion. Ms. Carver updated there is RSA 466: 31B regarding dog foul, however, the town does not have an ordinance on it.

-Conversation ensued about signage on Conservation properties. Ms. Carver also discussed a current spreadsheet she is keeping to track goals, ongoing projects and priorities of the Commission. This spreadsheet can be shared to keep everyone up to speed on current projects and happenings with the Commission.

-Ms. Carver shared a quote for a tree felling at 17 Holiday Avenue. Three estimates were received from three Derry based businesses. The lowest came in at \$1300 and the highest estimate at \$3000.00.

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to approve \$1300 to use ASC Tree Service for tree removal at Corneliusen and 17 Holiday Ave. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.
Vote: Unanimous

-Other Business: No recent updates.

At 8:09 p.m., Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to go into Nonpublic Meeting per RSA 91: A (3), (1) for the purpose of property acquisition. Commissioner Connolly seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote: Cheryl Holbert-Yes
Jay Hildreth-Yes
Richard Metts-Yes
Robert Spoerl-Yes
Linda Comrie-Yes
Val Connolly-Yes
Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes
Vote: Unanimous

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to invite Beth Carver and Councilor Charlie Foote into Nonpublic Meeting. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote: Cheryl Holbert-Yes
Jay Hildreth-Yes
Richard Metts-Yes
Robert Spoerl-Yes
Linda Comrie-Yes
Val Connolly-Yes
Riccardo Buzzanga-Yes
Vote: Unanimous

At 8:14 p.m., Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to return to Public Meeting. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.
Vote: Unanimous

At 8:15 p.m., Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to Seal the Minutes indefinitely. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.
Vote: Unanimously

At 8:16 p.m., Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to Adjourn. Commissioner Spoerl seconded the Motion.
Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammie Lampes, Recording Secretary

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