

DERRY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

June 1, 2026

Municipal Center

14 Manning Street

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

-Roll Call: Christopher Morlock, Cheryl Holbert, Richard Metts, Eileen Chabot, Robert Spoerl, Pamela Pirro, Linda Comrie and Val Connolly. Land Manager, Beth Carver, was present. Jay Hildreth and Charles Foote were absent.

Eileen Chabot made a **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of May 5, 2026, as written. Richard Metts seconded the motion. Robert Spoerl and Val Connolly abstained.

Vote: 5 yes, 2 abstentions

-Chairman Buzzanga gave the Chair's report and Correspondence. He continues to meet with Beth, and had a meeting with Derry CAM to continue getting Conservation work out to the public. They are working on a sample letter to solicit land for conservation. They will continue to work on it, and will present it to the Commission when ready. They plan to promote it through Derry CAM and social media. CC has been asked to participate in the BLIA watershed management group. Updates in the future will be brought to the Commission. They are working on the deed restriction on Broadview Farm. They have their first paper deal lease for the cornfield at Broadview. SELT sent correspondence about a workshop series. DES sent a communication about an alleged violation at 63 English Range Rd. Another communication from SELT about the properties they have conserved. They have begun receiving communication from the finance dept. CC continue to receive revenues from current use exchange tax.

-Site Plan Review: Map 10 Lot 12, 187 Hampstead Rd, Owner: Bird Enterprises LLC 41 Range Rd Windham, NH, Surveyor: Meisner Brem Corporation 202 Main St Salem NH, Minor Site Plan, Presenter Kurt Meisner and or Jay Yennaco

Mr. Meisner introduced the plan. The site was an existing church on Hampstead Rd, about 8.5 acres, retrofitted for Mr. Yennaco's business purposes as a landscape supply company and Northeast Elite Athletics inside the building. They would like to amend a small area of upland located on the southeast corner. The wetland shown was located by Tom Sockaloski of TES Environmental. They hope to utilize the area for a nursery stock holding area. They need to add a gravel pathway from the existing lot to the upland area. A detail of a mulch berm is shown on the plan.

Mr. Buzzanga asked if the gravel drive was existing. Mr. Meisner said that it is there now, but was not existing in 2025. Mr. Yennaco said that a portion of it is there, they would need to continue it. It would be a crushed stone gravel drive. Mr. Meisner said there was a gap between the wetlands located and that is where the gravel path will be.

Mr. Buzzanga asked if they would be using equipment on the gravel path. Mr. Yennaco said they would be using a skid steer for their use only. Mr. Buzzanga asked if they would be storing equipment in the area.

Ms. Connolly asked if they would be applying fertilizers on the nursery stock. Mr. Yennaco said they are primarily a wholesaler, and they don't fertilize their stock. They are not licensed to spray pesticides in the state of NH.

Mr. Buzzanga referred to the berm detail, asking if Mr. Yennaco would be putting that in place, or if they would outsource that work. Mr. Yennaco said the berm would be constructed and inspected by them.

Mr. Metts asked if the nursery stock is primarily balled and bur lapped. Mr. Yennaco said that most would be, unless it was a shade-loving plant. Referring to fertilizers, he said that slow-release pellets only release once the plants are in the ground for 14 days and the ground temp is above 70 degrees.

Ms. Chabot asked about the shape of the wetland, and if the gap in the wetland was filled by the church. Mr. Meisner said the original plan was from the 1990s, and shows the gap in the wetlands as existing.

Mr. Spoerl asked if there would be a culvert under the gravel path. Mr. Meisner explained that the gravel path is over a gap in the wetland. Ms. Chabot asked if the wetland was once connected in that area. Mr. Meisner reiterated that the gap in the wetland is naturally occurring, about 12-15' wide.

Ms. Chabot asked about drainage in the parking lot, a pipe that discharges into the wetland. She asked if that had been shown on the plan previously. Mr. Meisner said the pipe was installed when the church was there.

Richard Metts **MOTIONED** that the Conservation Commission has no objection to the plan revisions presented for 187 Hampstead Rd by Meisner Brem Corporation. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

-Workshop: Steven Lamonde presented a workshop on iNaturalist. He mentioned that the Commission would be hosting a bioblitz at Broadview Farm on June 27th. In his presentation, he reviewed the uses of iNaturalist, which includes researchers and enthusiasts documenting a variety of biodiversity. iNaturalist is one of the largest biodiversity databases. The workshop covered details and best practices of how to successfully use the mobile and desktop applications. He reviewed the Broadview Farm specific project he created on the iNaturalist website. He spoke about the different things Derry could do with the data collected through iNaturalist such as categorizing common, uncommon and rare species, monitor climate-driven arrivals, target invasive species for removal and inspire deeper connections with nature. The bioblitz will be a 24 hour event, with workshops specific to birds, plants, vernal pools and butterflies throughout the day.

Ms. Connolly asked about iNaturalist power users. Mr. Lamonde said he would reach out to users with thousands of observations on their accounts to ask them if they would like to attend the bioblitz. Ms. Connolly asked if current observations would be built on or separate from observations at the bioblitz. Mr. Lamonde said he could filter observations to just the day of the bioblitz. Ms. Holbert asked how the observations are grouped. Mr. Lamonde said the observations can be grouped in multiple ways, by date, by observer, by species, by geographic range. Ms. Holbert asked if it works with video. Mr. Lamonde said it is limited to photos, however it will accept a gif photo. Ms. Connolly asked if there was any concern about tracking species that may be hunted or poached. Mr. Lamonde said that there are geoprivacy options to obscure the location of the observation. Ms. Carver asked if someone didn't know if a species was endangered, would they be putting that species in danger by making the observation. Mr. Lamonde said that the location is obscured by default for threatened species.

-Community Garden: Ms. Carver reported that the community garden is in full swing with all plots being used. Opening day was May 9th with 17 people in attendance to help with staking. Jay shared some photos on the facebook group from the Community garden and got results of soil testing that he will share when he's able.

-Personnel: Mr. Metts said that Tammie's husband is indisposed with some medical issues and Tammie was not able to be at the meeting. He will schedule the employee reviews for Beth and Tammie with Cathrine in HR this month.

-Environmental Policy and Training Committee: Ms. Chabot shared a wetlands ID workshop on June 6th at Bow High school by NHACC from 9-12. You can register on the NHACC website. June 12th there is a Conservation Easement training hosted by the NHACC held at the Sanborne Mills farm. It's free, but a donation of 10-20 is encouraged. On June 19th there will be a trail maintenance and design workshop at Camp Dodge in Gorham NH. You can sign up on the NHACC website. June 13th a NH Audubon outing at Broadview Farm. Register through the NH Audubon website.

-Property Management: Mr. Buzzanga shared that there is one property management issue with an encroachment at Broadview Farm that Ms. Carver will share in her report.

-Land Maintenance: Ms. Carver shared that 3 individuals reached out about accessibility for visually impaired persons at Ballard State Park. They let them know that the Urban Forestry Center is the appropriate entity to reach out regarding Ballard. Mr. Buzzanga said this prompted a conversation about using a rating system for the trails to communicate difficulty to those with physical challenges. Mr. Spoerl shared that there is a rating system and company that helps rate trails called beneficial design.

-Land Acquisition: Chairman Buzzanga stated that they would discuss some properties they are pursuing in non-public. They continue to develop a solicitation letter for land owners highlighting the benefits of donating or selling land to the Conservation Commission.

-Reporting Compliance: Commissioner Connolly shared that Sam from SELT reached out about monitoring the Dolittle property. Ms. Connolly is planning on attending with him for the monitoring this coming Wednesday. She alerted the other members of the Reporting Compliance committee.

-Net Zero: Looking for a community power supplier. Zero has a recommendation, and they are coordinating with the town administrator to go through the RFP process. They are also working toward the hybridization of the town vehicles. There are currently 10 hybrid patrol cars and they will be taking data from those vehicles in 2-3 months. They also reviewed the CWPP.

-Public Outreach: Commissioner Holbert updated that Eileen and Beth attended What's the Scoop to promote the bioblitz. Social media has almost doubled since the last update. DCC is confirmed for the Aug 12th Derry farmers market at the community booth. We are also confirmed for Derryfest on Sept 19th. Ms. Connolly asked what kind of materials would be passed out and talked about. Ms. Holbert encouraged Commissioners to reach out with ideas.

-TRC: Mr. Metts shared that there was 1 TRC since the last meeting regarding changing lot lines at Denali Estates. There are 2 more coming up the next 2 Fridays. Denali Estates will be back before the Commission soon.

-Land Manager: Ms. Carver shared that Noah's Tractor Service needs to be paid \$450 for tilling at the Community Garden.

Richard Metts **MOTIONED** approve the Conservation Commission pay \$450 to Noah's Tractor Service with funds from the Preservation Account. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Ms. Carver shared that there is an account for stewardship of the Corneliusen property with \$13,000. After looking into what these funds can be used for, she found that the recent expenses of \$1,300 for a tree felling and \$160 for conservation grass seed mix are appropriate uses for this fund.

Richard Metts **MOTIONED** to approve taking \$1,300 for tree felling and \$160 for conservation grass seed of previously disbursed funds for those things done at the Corneliusen farm to be taken out of the Corneliusen maintenance fund. Val Connolly seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Ms. Carver updated that the CWPP draft has been completed and is currently being reviewed by the Fire Chief.

Ms. Carver shared that Mike Gagnon reached out from the UNH Extension service about helping the Commission put together a forest management plan. He offered to come to a future meeting to discuss the process of creating a forest management plan.

Ms. Carver shared that 6 people have signed up for the bioblitz so far. She shared a poster with a QR code that viewers at home can use to sign up. She has posters and a list of community businesses that allow posters to be hung and asked commissioners to come get posters from her and sign up for places to hang the posters. She also mentioned that Matt Tarr with UNH Ext is able to lead a follow up walk at Broadview on Sept 18th at 4pm.

Ms. Carver shared a map of Broadview showing the locations of no trespassing signs found that are within the bounds of the Broadview property. She spoke with Bob Spoerl about this and he said that since the signs are well within the bounds, we should be able to remove them. One of the boundaries is a stonewall, so it's very clear where it is. The signs to be taken down are the ones within the boundary of Broadview. Two signs on the boundary lines will be left in place. Ms. Connolly mentioned the trail going to the property. Ms. Carver said the signs that will be left up are not positioned in a way that would discourage people from accessing the trail, but to discourage people entering the private property from the trail. Mr. Spoerl asked how many letters had already been sent. Ms. Carver said that 2 letters were sent. Mr. Spoerl asked that Ms. Carver send another letter asking if he would like the signs back.

Val Connolly **MOTIONED** to authorize the land manager to remove the 4 signs identified within the boundary line of the property, sending a notification letter to the abutter who may have put the signs up that we will hold the signs for a period of 6 months. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Ms. Carver updated that the trailhead sign at the Margaret Ives Conservation Land was leaning, and DPW straightened it and freshened the paint on the sign. She reached out to 3 boy scout troops asking if there are any scouts looking for an Eagle scout project. She shared a set of plans that the scouts may use, one with a roof and one without.

Ms. Carver shared that a woman reached out asking if a sign could be put up on Hampstead Rd warning of turtles crossing. Mr. Buzzanga shared that this woman also shared the turtle cross. Ms. Chabot shared that if you help a turtle cross the road, be sure to put it in the direction it was heading. Ms. Carver got the name and number of the person at the NHDOT who takes care of these requests. Ms. Holbert mentioned this could be a good public outreach opportunity.

Ms. Carver updated that there was a wetlands identification training that was recorded. She can share the link and login information with any commissioners who want it.

-Other Business: There was discussion about what the next meeting date would be. June 15th will be the next meeting date. July 13th will be as needed, if a site plan or other business is on the agenda. Val Connolly shared a document she created after meeting with some of the Commissioners to create a mission statement, vision statement, and purpose statement. She reviewed her process of creating these draft statements. She stated that these statements should be reviewed and agreed upon by the Commissioners. She will share these out with Commissioners via email so they can review them and give

feedback. She also put together a document aimed at helping new Commissioners that she will share via email as well.

Ms. Chabot asked Mr. Metts if anything was presented in the TRC in regard to the Lane Rd project. She raised a concern about the barrier and earthen material being moved close to the water's edge. Mr. Metts suggested Code Enforcement be made aware.

Richard Metts **MOTIONED** to allow a 3 minute public input. Eileen Chabot seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

David Provencher of 26 Miltonmore Rd stated he would be unable to attend the bioblitz, and that he looks forward to the next meeting.

Richard Metts **MOTIONED** to go into non-public session per RSA 93 A:3 Section II for purpose of Land Acquisition. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.

Vote: Christopher Morlock yes, Cheryl Holbert yes, Richard Metts yes, Robert Spoerl yes, Eileen Chabot yes, Val Connolly yes, Riccardo Buzzanga yes

Richard Metts **MOTIONED** to invite Owen Provencher and Beth Carver to the non-public session. Cheryl Holbert seconded.

Vote: Christopher Morlock yes, Cheryl Holbert yes, Richard Metts yes, Robert Spoerl yes, Eileen Chabot yes, Val Connolly yes, Riccardo Buzzanga yes

At 9:15 p.m. Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to leave Nonpublic Session. Commissioner Morlock seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to seal the Minutes. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

At 9:16 p.m. Commissioner Metts **MOVED** to Adjourn. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.

Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Carver

