DERRY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Municipal Center

Derry, NH 03038

July 13, 2026

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

-**Roll Call**: Richard Metts, Eileen Chabot, Christopher Morlock, Val Connolly, Jay Hildreth, Pam Pirro, Katherine Arbour, and Land Manager Elizabeth Carver. Chairman Buzzanga, Robert Spoerl, and Council Liaison Charlie Foote were absent.

-Cochairman Metts welcomed Katherine Arbour to the meeting. He announced she is the final alternate completing a full Commission/ Board.

-Cheryl Holbert arrived at 7:03. p.m.

-Cochair Metts asked if Pam Pirro would sit in for Mr. Spoerl and asked if Christopher Morlock would sit in as a voting member.

-Chairman Metts referred to the Minutes of June 3, 2026. He noted some minor spelling corrections.

Commissioner Connolly **MOVED** to approve the Minutes of June 3, 2026. Commissioner Morlock seconded the Motion. **Vote: Unanimous**

-**Correspondence**: Cochair Metts shared a reminder from SELT that the Corneliusen Farm Property and Doolittle Conservation Area properties have been protected for a total of 26 years. Also, a Department of Environment Services notification was received due to an alleged violation at 122 Hampstead Road. This letter will be discussed during the Nonpublic Session.

-**New Commissioner Handbook**: Commissioner Connolly shared the handbook and provided a review of the subcommittees and the roles of Chairs of those committees offering a chance for new members to explore and learn. She hopes to share a living document that establishes a set of guidelines and rules for commissioners. The handbook will also speak about limitations, RSA's and how they are defined by law and regulations. Commissioner Connolly has also added helpful links that provide other resources. Land Manager and Commissioner Connolly provided a presentation on how the handbook would be developed further and a summary of the information currently available in the handbook.

-**BioBlitz Recap:** Land Manager Beth Carver stated 30 people attended the BioBlitz held at Broadview Farm. Many attendees were made aware of the day by notices given on Facebook, letters mailed to abutters, the Derry News, Notices on land Kiosks, and invitations from friends and Commissioners. She thanked the Derry Fire Department for stationing the LED sign board. She also thanked the NHACC and Moosewood Ecological for their help in hosting. Steven Lamonde, Ecologist and Project Manager of

Moosewood Ecological reported it was the best attended BioBlitz he had ever hosted. He provided a summary of the documented species that were noted and the discovery of more than a dozen invertebrate species that have been publicly documented at fewer than ten other locations in Derry. He also reported Broadview Farm was the premier location for Baltimore Checkerspot Butterflies in Rockingham County to observe these remarkable species. As a result of the property's iNaturalist project which included 1,936 observations, a representation of 543 species was recorded. The Commission thanked Ms. Carver for her exceptional work and the Commissioners who were able to participate. Follow-ups dates for the BioBlitz are scheduled for Saturday, August 22, 2026, with the Land Maintenance Committee who will be updating the Broadview Kiosk and then on September 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. when Matt Tarr with the UNH Extension will be giving a guided hike at Broadview beginning at 4:00 p.m.

-Cochair Metts thanked Derry Cam for documenting the day and sharing some of the footage.

-**Community Garden**: Commissioner Hildreth reported he is extremely pleased with the gardens and the results of the added manure and fertilizer that was added in May. The results are evident with lots of growth. He reminded that gardeners would have to stay on top of the weeding, but the vegetables thus far have been outstanding. He expects a boost in the soil for some time.

-**Personnel**: Cochair Metts updated that he and Chairman Buzzanga will plan to meet in late August, early September to conduct an annual review for Beth Carver and 1st review for Tammie Lampes.

-Public Outreach: Commissioner Holbert congratulated Land Manager Beth Carver and Commissioner Linda Comrie on the success of the BioBlitz event. She reports she is looking forward to the Derry Farmer's Market on August 12, 2026. The next meeting will be the discussion of new ideas and the upcoming Derry Fest event. She asked fellow Commissioners to email any ideas they would like to share.

-**TRC:** Cochair Metts stated there were no updates to present.

-**State Compliance**: Commissioner Chabot shared the announcement that the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions is holding a free zoom meeting with the Department of Environmental Services regarding wetlands rule changes that are being proposed. Commissioners can register for this meeting that takes place on Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

-**Property Management**: No updates were presented.

-**Land Maintenance**: No updates were presented.

-**Land Acquisition**: No updates were presented.

-**Reporting Compliance**: Commissioner Connolly walked the Doolittle property along with Sam Hereford, Conservation Easement Steward of SELT. Some of the trails marked on the map may not be up to date. He will walk the Corneliusen Farm Property as well which will be scheduled soon. Commissioner Connolly is also working to make sure the properties' names are clarified with SELT maps. She participated in a monitoring walk with Commissioner Spoerl at the Martin Farm property along with a representative from NH Fish and Game who provided great insight regarding signage issues. They learned

that Martin Farm was bought by J & F Farms a few years ago. She has a draft prepared to send to the contact at J & F Farm once a contact is identified.

-**Net Zero Task Force**: Commissioner Connolly reported the task force have not met but have a scheduled meeting for July 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

-**Council Liaison Report**: No updates were presented.

-**Land Manager Report**: Ms. Carver updated the Community Wildfire Protection Plan draft has been reviewed by Town officials. Memos from each department will be received by the Core Team and will be incorporated into the document. The deed covenant put in place when the Broadview Farm property was purchased has expired. She shared that Broadview Farm had been purchased using bond proceeds, not Conservation funds, meaning there is no protection on the property currently. Options to provide coverage for the property include renewing the deed covenant with no expiration date or placing a conservation easement on the property through a qualified entity such as SELT, LCHIP, or RCCD which can be costly. Chairman Buzzanga asked Ms. Carver to prepare a draft for the commissioners of what a deed covenant might look like. Ms. Carver elaborated that her draft is a combination of input provided by Barbara Ritcher with the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions and information from the existing deed. Conversation ensued.

-The "No Trespassing signs" have been removed from the Broadview Farm property. Cub Scout Troop 402 has asked to use the camp site at Broadview for an overnight trip this Saturday, July 18, 2026.

Commissioner Chabot **MOVED** to approve the use of the campsite at Broadview for Troop 402 Cub Scouts for Saturday, July 18, 2026. Cheryl Holbert seconded the Motion.
Vote: Unanimous

-Ms. Carver reported other important Land Maintenance meeting dates include Saturday, July 18, 2026, with light trail work taking place at the Ball property from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ms. Carver made mention of Commissioner Chabot's request to stop the Derry Public Works from mowing the middle pathway at the Broadview Farm due to the Bobolink birds nesting habitats. Ms. Carver noted the Public Works Department has stated they will not go back to mowing the middle pathway in the future if it is stopped from mowing now. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Chabot **MOVED** to discontinue mowing the middle, central path at Broadview Farm for wildlife protection. Commissioner Connolly seconded the Motion.
Roll Call Vote: Christopher Morlock -Yes
Jay Hildreth- Yes
Cheryl Hobert-Yes
Eileen Chabot-Yes
Val Connolly- Yes
Pam Pirro-Yes
Rick Metts-Yes
Yes, Vote Unanimous

-**Other Business**: Commissioner Hildreth reported an update regarding the Young Road/Broadview Annex and his observations he has been accumulating. He spoke of his weekly visits since the snow melted and the creation of a spreadsheet to record his findings regarding the Environmental Study, and the vernal pools that exist in the landscape. He presented the Commission with a proposal to create a subcommittee to move forward with possibly plotting some paths and exploring other options in the future such as a draft Management Plan.

Commissioner Holbert **MOVED** to create a subcommittee to manage the Broadview Farm Annex. Val Connolly seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote: Christopher Morlock -Yes
Jay Hildreth- Yes
Cheryl Hobert-Yes
Eileen Chabot-Yes
Val Connolly- Yes
Pam Pirro-Yes
Rick Metts-Yes
Yes, Vote Unanimous

-**Andrew Higgins, Ballard View Circle**: Mr. Higgins came to the meeting to discuss the slow encroachment of Japanese Knot Wood and Oriental Bittersweet invasive plants and wanted to address remedies to stop it from damaging properties in the future. He read his prepared statement and conversation ensued with the Commission regarding ways to address the plants problematic issues.

Commissioner Morlock **MOVED** to enter Nonpublic Meeting per RSA 91 A:3, Section II for the purpose of land acquisitions. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote: Christopher Morlock -Yes
Jay Hildreth- Yes
Cheryl Hobert-Yes
Eileen Chabot-Yes
Val Connolly- Yes
Pam Pirro-Yes
Rick Metts-Yes
Yes Vote Unanimous

Commissioner Morlock **MOVED** to invite Land Manager, Beth Carver, to the Nonpublic Meeting. Commissioner Holbert seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote: Christopher Morlock -Yes
Jay Hildreth- Yes
Cheryl Hobert-Yes
Eileen Chabot-Yes
Val Connolly- Yes
Pam Pirro-Yes
Rick Metts-Yes **Yes Vote Unanimous**
Yes, Vote Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammie Lampes

Recording Secretary