



Derry Conservation Commission
14 Manning St
Derry, NH 03038

Minutes of Public Meeting May 24, 2021

On May 24, 2021, the Derry Conservation Commission met at the Derry Municipal Center, 3rd floor meeting room at 7:00 pm. The following members were present in person: James Degnan (Chair), Ric Buzzanga, Margie Ives, Eileen Chabot, Grace Reisdorf, William Lowenthal and Alternates, Bob Boonstra and Mariel Capulli. The following members participated via Zoom: Robert Spoerl. Justin Mitchell was absent.

Approval of Minutes:

Ric Buzzanga made a motion to approve the minutes. Will Lowenthal seconded the motion. Grace Reisdorf and Margaret Ives abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

Chair's Report, Correspondence & Bills:

NH Audubon – State of NH Birds Report

Granite State Tree Farmer – Spring 2021 Edition. Chair noted Greg Jordan our county forester is current chair of the GSTF Organization.

DES Notice- Tax Map 56 Lot 33 11 North Shore Rd. Deficiencies in a prior notice have been corrected. File has been closed.

DES Notice- Dam 063021 has been tagged by DES for improvement and continual inspection. Commission to follow up with Steve Doyon at DES.

Email Fire Pit Request: Troop405 from 7-8pm on May 24th have requested use of the pit. Will Lowenthal reminded public that there was high wind on proposed date and the fire department holds right to cancel permits. Chair advised that Troop Leaders had appropriate safety equipment onsite and it was unknown if fire would even happen this evening due to wind. Grace Reisdorf motions to approve use, Margaret Ives seconds. All in favor motion carried.

Email Fire Pit Request: Girl Scout Troop 13159 from 5-8pm on the 27th. Advised they have fire permit and proper fire safety equipment. Grace Reisdorf motions. Eileen Chabot Seconds. All in favor motion carried.

Site Plan Review:

Sunset Ave Culvert Replacements: Kimberly Peace and Joseph Bicja – Hoyle Tanner Associates

Joseph Bicja is the project manager on this for HTA. Kimberly Peace is the Senior Environmental coordinator for HTA. HTA has been contracted by the town of Derry and been working with Mike Fowler and Alan Cote on this project. Both the North and South culverts on this loop road need to be replaced. This will be a town funded project; funding at this time is not complete. There will be one NHDES/USACE wetland permit application.

The North Crossing is 180' South of the Sunset Ave intersection. It is a NHDES designated Tier 3 Stream. The current culvert has 2 metal pipes. The pipes have deteriorated, and landscape has started to shift.

The South crossing is 230' northeast of the intersection. It is a NHDES designated Tier 3 Stream. The current culvert has one metal pipe and one concrete reinforced pipe. The granite surrounding the culverts have started to shift as well.

Goal of the project is to replace each culvert location with a 14' Span bridge. These are designed to have a 75yr service life and meet NHDES Wetland Rules. These bridges have increase openings and open bottoms. Temporary impacts to stream bed. They will meet 50 and 100yr storm events. The bottoms are designed to not impede wildlife traffic. There is no issue with state listed species. Invasive where noted onsite. The site contractor will have an invasive species management plan. Erosion and Sediment controls will be in place. Total impact is 1,561sf. Temporary impact is 1293sf and Permanent Impact is 268sf.

Will Lowenthal asked about flooding or backing up in these locations prior. Joseph Bicja advised that there was one flood event described by town at north crossing that fully went over the road. Margaret Ives asked when construction would start and how long it would take. Joseph Bicja advised it is still dependent on funding target is likely 2022. Road closures would be during summer season perhaps 2 months. Ric Buzzanga asked about who is responsible for erosion control and material handling and storage. Joseph Bicja advised there will be a third-party stormwater prevention plan that will be executed by the contractor. There will be an environmental monitoring firm will be onsite weekly. Additional site visits occur when rain events eclipse 1/4" of rainfall within a 24hr period. Ric asked if HTA is responsible for following all erosion control measures are in place or if they are done after design. Joseph Bicja advised they will monitor during construction, but the third party is responsible for compliance. Ric asked if Invasive note was going to be on plan. Chair also asked for Invasive Species management plan. Joseph Bicja agreed to supply Invasive plan once complete. Eileen Chabot asked for a copy of the SWIPP and a copy of the wetlands permit application. Joseph Bicja agreed to supply once prepared. Chair advised that due to the aforementioned documents not being available until a GC is secured; the board needs to review and provide commentary and approval on what is drawn. Any motion would include verbiage with board getting additional documents.

Site walk scheduled for 8:00 am June 5th.

Joseph Bicja advised these are just preliminary plans and they will add additional information as needed.

Site Plan Review:

Subdivision Plan 36 Floyd Rd Tax Map 6 Lot 64: Tim Peloquin Promised Land Survey

Current Parcel is 11.5 acre and has frontage on Floyd and Warner Hill Road. Current access is off Floyd. Zoning has granted a variance for road frontage on Warner Hill as a proposed new 6.5 acre lot. There are wetlands located in the area of the proposed driveway. The wetland crossing would have 675sf impact to the wetland. Location was chosen as it is the smallest crossing and impact location. The crossing is adjacent to a discontinued roadway. Mark West was the wetland scientist on this project. Everything is flagged within 1ft or better. There is an old beaver dam on site adjacent to the crossing. It has been confirmed as an inactive beaver dam. There were no vernal pools identified onsite. Tim confirmed that the invasive species notes DCC requires have been added on the plan. There is a 8/9 acre wetland adjacent to the proposed lot.

Chair noted 2 24" culverts to be installed under proposed road. Chair asked if beaver dam where to let go would the 24" pipes be enough to handle flow. Tim confirmed it is more than enough to handle that flow. Tim confirmed the beaver dam is to remain in place the goal is to not disturb it at all. Chair advised homeowner should be advised not to touch existing without contacting DES for support. Ric Buzzanga asked about the dewatering pump and sediment bag. Tim advised it is only to be used if necessary and work will try to be completed in dry conditions. Eileen Chabot asked about adding a note to when Mark West delineated the wetland. Eileen Chabot asked about round culverts vs flat bottom preferred by Fish and Game. Tim noted he was expecting a 30day minimum impact permit and it could be altered based off application feedback from DES. Chair asked about 4k area for septic. Tim advised that over 5 acres he can request a waiver to not test pit and that there is enough suitable area. Tim will be requesting that waiver.

Site walk set for June 5th 9:30 am park at Warner Hill access.

Will Lowenthal asked about frontage size. Tim advised it is 86' approved with the variance.

UNH Study Proposal:

Evaluating Fur Bearer Methods in NH – Andrew Butler UNH PHD Student in conjunction with Fish and Game is requesting to use 3 Derry properties for this project study. Andrew advised the study generated 75 unique points across NH to study. There is a focus on using conservation properties to ensure there will be continuous access to each camera location. Camera placement would take place in July.

Will Lowenthal asked about criteria used to select sites. Andrew advised that sites were selected by generated points and then properties were within a mile. Focus was on land trust owned and conservation parcels. Bob Boonstra asked about privacy for residents. Andrew advised cameras will be placed away from trails as they are a deterrent for animal activity. The placement will be strategic to also avoid theft of cameras. Chair asked if cameras would have signage or information advising of study. Andrew advised that there would be a sticker identifying each unit as part of the UNH Study. Ric Buzzanga asked how often the cameras need to be visited. Andrew advised they will need to visit every couple of months. SD Cards and batteries will need to be swapped. Eileen Chabot asked how the data will be used. Andrew advised there will be some estimation of total population based off images.

Andrew advised that the use of lure may influence result. Chair asked about lure specifically used at Broadview farm and potential for dogs to find those sites. Andrew advised we will try and place locations far from main area or potentially move to a different property. Grace Reisdorf asked about species in study. Andrew advised fisher, coyote, red fox, and potential for moose and deer as well as others. Will Lowenthal suggested that Andrew meet with us to place the cameras. Margaret Ives suggested Cole Marsh.

Chair asks for motion to approve project pending we walk properties with Andrew and have say in final parcels selected and assist in identifying camera locations. Rick Buzzanga motions. Grace Reisdorf seconds. All in favor. Motion Carries.

Andrew advised he will come back and share data.

Other Conservation Activities

Broadview Farm- Chair advised a sign was nailed into the fence at Broadview. Chair advised it is considered vandalism. Chair advised that a 4 wheel drive vehicle drove over the stones and drove in the main field and looped back to parking lot. Chair advised that the driver did drop into the stream area on his way back to the parking lot. Chair advised public that if anyone is to see a vehicle in the field to call the Derry Police department or reach out to DCC immediately. It is a sensitive habitat that we have taken great strides to protect and improve. Ric Buzzanga asked about adding a trail cam. Will Lowenthal asked that we potentially check with legal on adding a camera. Ric asked also asked about adding a sign stating its being monitored. Bob Spoerl advised some cameras cannot detect plates at night. Chair to continue discussion with town.

Chair also asked that dogs be leashed on Broadview. Chair also asked that dog fouling be cleaned up by the owner. Chair advised that a dog bag station was discussed previously but it is not ideal for us to maintain it is up to the dog owner.

Community Garden Tilling- Tilling is complete and reported to be in the best shape its been in in quite some time. Came in under budget at 200.00. The garden was staked the next day with support of the Derry Garden Club. Took about an hour. Margie also advised the tilling was exceptional.

Non Public: Ric Buzzanga motions to go into Non Public session. Will Lowenthal Seconds. All in Favor. Motion Carries. Chair clarifies Non Public Session ends the meeting. Zoom attendees cannot attend the Non Public session.

Meeting Adjournment 8:18pm

Recorder: James Degnan