



Derry Conservation Commission  
14 Manning St  
Derry, NH 03038

### **Minutes of Public Meeting April 13, 2020**

April 2020. At this time, the world is experiencing a Global Pandemic named COVID-19. In order to keep people safe from the virus, New Hampshire Governor, Christopher Sununu has issued a stay at home order and a six-foot social distancing rule has been put into place. All non-essential businesses are closed. The Derry Municipal Center is closed to the public. Schools are closed. These efforts have been brought forth in hopes to try to control this highly contagious virus. Derry Cam and Zoom have made it possible for the town to hold public meetings virtually and to broadcast them on Channel 17. The meetings will also be available for public viewing through the Derry Website. This virtual type of meeting process will be in effect until further notice.

On April 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm, the Derry Conservation Commission met via Zoom/NH Virtual Meetings. This program has allowed DCC members the ability to participate in tonight's meeting from their homes via their computers.

### **Minutes of Meeting:**

The following members were attending the meeting virtually. James Degnan, Chair, Ric Buzzanga, Eileen Chabot, William Lowenthal, Grace Reisdorf, Robert Spoerl and Alternates, Ann Marie Chase and Bob Boonstra. Member, Margaret Ives, Alternates, Paul Dionne and Justin Mitchell were absent. Recording Clerk, Ruth Robinson was watching the meeting from her home.

The meeting began with a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and the introduction of Commission Members.

Bob Boonstra has been appointed as an Alternate Member. A welcome was given to Bob Boonstra.

Members, Eileen Chabot and Ric Buzzanga have been re-appointed to the Conservation Commission for another 3-year term. Thanks, were given to Eileen and Ric for volunteering their time. It is a pleasure to have them.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

***Grace Reisdorf made a motion to approve the minutes of March 9, 2020. Eileen Chabot seconded the motion. All members were polled.***

Ric Buzzanga - yes  
William Lowenthal – abstain  
Bob Spoerl – yes  
Grace Reisdorf – yes  
Eileen Chabot – yes  
Ann Marie Chase – abstain  
Bob Boonstra – abstain  
James Degnan – yes  
***The Motion carried.***

#### **Chair's Report, Correspondence & Bills:**

There is no correspondence to report on this evening.

#### **Update on Conservation Activities:**

*Update on Trail Mapping* – Chair, James Degnan spent some time with the “Trail Kit” program at the Low property, the Doolittle Property and Cole Marsh. “Trail Kit” seems to be fairly accurate with the exception of some spottiness in the very dense portions of the woods. James will be making a return trip to Cole Marsh this week to recheck the accuracy. Any DCC members interested were invited to attend the trip to Cole Marsh. The maps have been uploaded to “Trail Kit”. They will need to be modified before the public can view them. These three properties will be ready to go live soon. DCC members were also invited to attend the mapping process of the other Conservation areas.

*Low Property* -The Low property off Hubbard Hill is extremely wet at this time. There is running water. The trails are in great shape from the maintenance done last year. There is no destructive activity from ATV'S. The Beaver dam is holding back quite a bit of water. The water has come up the banks quite a bit. Chair will contact the state to have them come and take a look at it. Someone has placed a bird box out in the middle of the marsh, and someone has re-blazed the trails with orange spray paint. Previously the trails were blazed with red paint. The public was asked not to mark the trails. The gesture was appreciated, but the Derry Conservation Commission needs to be involved in any trail markings. Different colors markings will cause confusion to the trail users.

*Cole Marsh* - There has been lots of ATV use, which has widened the trail in some areas. These areas are holding water. This parcel has also been blazed with orange paint. Again, the public was asked to let the Conservation Commission do the trail markings.

*Doolittle* – The property seems to be in good shape. A suggestion was made to cover the entrance to the logging trail with brush to prevent access by trail users

*Broadview* – The property is very damp in spots at this time. The trail that leads to Cross Rd. has received a lot of traffic. Trail users trying to get around the mud in this area have expanded the trail. The public was asked to limit the use of the trail in this area for now.

*Webber Forest* – There are two damaged areas to the bridge. ATV users have widened the muddy areas and those areas are now holding water. Someone has pulled some brush across the trail to prevent ATV use. This brush is causing unsafe passage for walkers and causing difficulty for horseback users.

#### **Broadview Gardens Update:**

The reservation process began on April 1<sup>st</sup>. At this point in time, 21 of the plots have been reserved. There are still a few plots left. Anyone wishing to reserve a plot may do so by sending an email to

broadviewgardening@gmail.com or by completing an online application under the Conservation Commission Tab/Town properties/ Broadview, on the Derry website or through the Face Book group - *Broadview Farm Community Garden*. The Gardeners seem to have a lot of enthusiasm. There will be no orientation sessions this year due to COVID- 19 restrictions. A suggestion was made to possibly record an orientation session, which could be viewed by the gardeners on "You Tube "or it could be emailed to them. Will Lowenthal has been in touch with UNH Cooperative Extension. He has received info from them on managing Community Gardens during the current COVID -19 crisis. Going forward, gardeners were asked to keep a safe distance from one another and to use gloves when operating the well pump. Some clean-up work needs to be done at the gardens. The old fencing and stakes need to be cleaned up and taken away.

The Town Wide Spring Clean-up was supposed to take place April 18<sup>th</sup> running through April 24<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion on postponing the clean-up week due to the COVID -19 pandemic restrictions that are in place. ***Ric Buzzanga made a motion to postpone the Town Wide Clean-up due to COVID 19. When a new date is determined, guidance needs to be obtained on the proper handling of the trash. Eileen Chabot seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All were in favor. Motion carried.***

#### **Other Business:**

Other DCC plans have to be put on hold due to the COVID - 19 Pandemic. DCC was going to have UNH Cooperative Extension come in May to assess the conditions at Broadview for the mowing project.

Pinkerton students were doing some work on designing a logo for the Conservation property signage. School is not in session during the current crisis. This project is paused for now.

#### **Adjournment:**

***Ric Buzzanga made a motion to adjourn. Grace Reisdorf seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All members were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.***

Recording Clerk/ Ruth Robinson