



Derry Conservation Commission
14 Manning St
Derry, NH

Update on COVID – 19:

May 2020. At this time, the world is still experiencing a Global Pandemic named COVID-19. In order to keep people safe from the virus, New Hampshire Governor, Christopher Sununu had issued a stay at home order and a six-foot social distancing rule had been put into place. Some non-essential businesses are beginning to open as of today May 11, 2020, while complying with the six-foot social distancing restriction. The Derry Municipal Center is still closed to the public. Schools are closed for the remainder of this school year. 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 are also available for public viewing on the Derry Website. This virtual type of meeting process will be in effect until further notice.

Minutes of Public Meeting May 11, 2020:

On May 11, 2020 at 7:00 pm, the Derry Conservation Commission met via Zoom/Virtual Meetings. This program has allowed DCC members the ability to participate in meetings from their homes via their computers.

The following members were present at the virtual meeting: James Degnan, Chair, William Lowenthal, Grace Reisdorf, Justin Mitchell and Alternate, Bob Boonstra were present on Zoom. Ric Buzzanga, Eileen Chabot, Margaret Ives, Robert Spoerl, Alternates, Paul Dionne, and Marianne Chase were absent. Justin Mitchell sat for Margaret Ives. Bob Boonstra sat for Eileen Chabot. Recording Clerk, Ruth Robinson is watching the meeting from her home and transcribing.

Approval of Minutes:

Grace Reisdorf made a motion to approve the minutes of April 13, 2020. Bob Boonstra seconded the motion. All other members present on Zoom were in favor. Motion carried.

Chair's Report, Correspondence & Bills:

A Wetlands Best Practice Management brochure has been received. Chair will look over the info and pass it on to any other interested members. The book will be available to members in the Conservation files at town hall.

DES:

DES File # 2018-03134 – A notification has been received. This is a response to a request for more information. The notification was sent by Wetlands Program Manager to Carl Benedict of the NH Wetlands Bureau. The project is the proposed Interstate Rte. 93, Exit 4-A. The notice is regarding NH Department of Transportation, Trolley Car Lane stream re-location. This document will be held at town hall for member viewing.

Chair, James Degnan gave thanks to the Derry Public Works Department for the placement of an additional boulder at the Drew Rd. entrance to Webber Forest. ATV users were gaining access to the area to get to the rail trail and muddying up the trail. This access route and the other side access route of the property are not to be used for passage by OHRV. The public was reminded that there are parking lots just 5 minutes away from Webber that can be used to gain access to the recreation trail.

Broadview Gardens - Chair gave thanks to Derry DPW for picking up and disposing of the old fencing and garden stakes materials that were left behind by last year's gardeners. All 30 garden plots have been reserved at this time. The two handicapped accessible raised beds are still available. If no one reserves the raised beds by the end the week, they will be offered to any gardeners that would like a little more space. COVID -19 conditions prohibits group gatherings. A group orientation process will not be held this year. Instead, William Lowenthal has created a video presentation to advise the gardeners of rules for the gardens and how the well pump works etc. The gardens need to be tilled. The raised beds are ready for planting at this time. Volunteers are needed to help stake out the plots once the gardens are tilled.

Update on Conservation Activities:

Broadview - The trails are receiving a lot of heavy usage lately, with the presence of the COVID – 19 Virus. Residents are turning to nature to get out of their homes and enjoy the nice weather. With this heavy use, the trash can at Broadview has been overflowing. The public was asked to please carry out their own trash if possible, to help out.

The maps are complete of the Broadview property and should be uploaded to Trailfinders soon.

The *Doolittle* property and the *Low* property have also been mapped and sent to the Trailfinders. Program. These two properties should be uploaded soon and will be available for phone downloads.

Grace Reisdorf and Bob Boonstra attended the exploratory mapping process along with James Degnan at Cole Marsh.

Grinnell – The GPS mapping of Grinnell should be complete by the end of the week. There are some downed trees across the trail that need to be cleared. A chainsaw will be needed to handle the size of the felled trees. James Degnan hopes to have the mapping process done at Cole Marsh and Grinnell by the end of this week.

Low – The beaver dam in the main marsh at the Low property had been recently holding back a lot of water, to a point where a sign in the marsh was almost under water. A check on the property this week revealed that the beaver dam had let go, possibly from the high-water level that the marsh was at. The

water level is way down now. Debris from the broken dam was strewn about a couple hundred feet forward. The particular sign referenced is now standing in mud. The dam appears to have let go on its own.

Webber – The parcel is in good shape. People are leaving boating equipment in the area (canoe, kayak, paddles). The public was asked, whoever owns the equipment to please remove it.

A suggestion was made to update the trail uses on Derry Cable Channel 17. List the properties that can be used by ATV'S and the properties that cannot. Chair will contact Doug Rathburn on this update.

Adjournment:

Bob Boonstra made a motion to adjourn. Grace Reisdorf seconded the motion. All Zoom members present were in favor. Motioned carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Other Business:

Recording Clerk/ Ruth Robinson