



Derry Conservation Commission  
14 Manning St  
Derry, NH 03038

**Update on COVID-19:**

June 2020. At this time, the COVID-19 Pandemic is still affecting our lives and the way we do things. The 6-foot social distancing order is still in place. The curve of the virus is now on the downslope side and some restrictions are being lifted. The Derry Municipal Center is still closed to the public. Schools remain closed for the rest of the school year. Some non-essential businesses are opening back up. All Derry Town Council and Derry Town Board meetings are still being held online via Zoom.

**Minutes of Meeting June 8, 2020:**

On June 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm, the Derry Conservation Commission met online via Zoom. The following members were present on Zoom for the meeting this evening. James Degnan, Chair, Ric Buzzanga, Eileen Chabot, William Lowenthal, Grace Reisdorf, Bob Boonstra and Justin Mitchell. Margaret Ives, Robert Spoerl and Alternate, Paul Dionne were absent.

**Approval of Minutes:**

***Ric Buzzanga made a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2020. Bob Boonstra seconded the motion. All others were in favor. Motion carried.***

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

William Lowenthal purchased (75) stakes for the Broadview Gardens from Derry Feed at a cost of \$53.97.

***Ric Buzzanga made a motion to reimburse William Lowenthal \$53.97 for (75) stakes for the Broadview Gardens. Eileen Chabot seconded the motion. William Lowenthal abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.***

William Lowenthal had applied for and received a grant of \$300.00 from the New Hampshire Master Gardners Alumni Association. The money was used to purchase bales of straw to hand out to each gardener, to help with weed control in their plot. The straw was purchased at Blue Seal at a cost of \$330.00, leaving a balance of \$30.00.

***Ric Buzzanga made a motion to reimburse William Lowenthal \$30.00 for the balance for purchase of the straw bales. Eileen Chabot seconded the motion. William Lowenthal abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.***

William Lowenthal would like to thank the New Hampshire Master Gardeners Alumni Association for the grant. William Lowenthal would also like to thank Blue Seal of Derry for giving the Derry Conservation Commission a discount on the straw bales.

#### **DES:**

*Pinkerton Academy* - A notice of permit acceptance has been received from DES for Pinkerton Academy for the development of a natural turf field. Tax Map 43/ Lot 8. This is on the agenda this evening.

*17 Beaver Lake Ave* -Lot 51126 – This is a notification that an application has been received by DES.

#### **Site Plan Review:**

*Pinkerton Academy Athletic Field Development* – Tax Map 43/ Lot 8 -Ken Costello and Tim Powers were present on Zoom to present the plan. The new field is proposed for the north end of the campus, to the west of the newly constructed access drive. The section was cleared earlier this year. There is a wetland in the area. This plan being presented was updated April 10, 2019. There will be a 3 to 1 slope from north to south to the existing baseball field. An interceptor swale will be created to take care of any runoff around the field, which will flow into a level spreader. There is already a swale in place near the baseball field. One swale will connect into the other swale and flow as one into a culvert. DCC had concerns of the use of fertilizer and erosion control. It was stated that a high standard fertilizer that is recommended for use at schools, will be used. Erosion control matting will be used. The field will mainly be used for practice sessions. Work will take place this summer with a fall completion date. The first time use of the field will be sometime in 2021. DCC will do a site walk on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

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

*Broadview Mowing*- DCC has been receiving advise from Scientist, Matt Tarr from the UNH Cooperative Extension on the Broadview property. Matt has created a video on the property. He has studied the wildlife in the area and the possibility of nesting Bobolinks. He has discovered that there are all kinds of bird species habitating the area. It was determined that there are no Bobolinks in the area. It may be a stopping point for them, but not a nesting area. It was recommended, that the best thing for the existing habitat is to let the field sit as is for now and to plan an August mowing. DCC is searching for someone to not just hay the field but someone who will manage the field in a way that would improve and maintain the property's diverse natural habitat. Chair, James Degnan has been working with David Ahearn from Field of Dreams Mowing and Reclamation LLC. A bid for the first cut is for a base rate of \$60.00 per hour not to exceed \$1,200.00. The cost would include bringing in the equipment, leaving the equipment overnight and the first mow. After the initial cut, there was discussion on the mowing of the field in different sections at different times to aid the habitat.

***A motion was made for the Derry Conservation Commission to enter an agreement with Field Of Dreams Mowing and Reclamation LLC for a first time mow at Broadview, not to exceed \$1,200.00,***

*with the notion that a final mowing plan will be finalized with the Derry Conservation Commission and that David Ahearn would submit in writing, confirming what section (s) will be cut and when the cut will be. Ric Buzzanga made this motion with a friendly amendment added to it that David Ahearn would give DCC a proposal for a long-term maintenance plan cost. Ric Buzzanga is not stating that a long-term plan would be committed to by DCC, but a proposal cost for an annual maintenance mowing would be figured in. William Lowenthal seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.* DCC will do a site walk at Broadview on June 13th at 8:00 am.

*Broadview Gardens* – The gardens were tilled on May 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a workday on June 1<sup>st</sup> for staking etc. The gardens were opened for planting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. At this time 27 of the 30 plots have been cultivated along with the 2 raised beds. The remaining 3 plots have not been cultivated yet. Will Lowenthal will contact the gardeners of the uncultivated plots. If no use is intended by the registered gardeners of these plots by the end of the week, the plots will be offered to applicants on the waiting list. To comply with a COVID-19, 6-foot social distancing rule that is in place, the garden pathways have been cut 6 feet wide. This wide pathway is something that DCC might want to consider keeping going forward, to allow more room for the gardeners and to make it easier for Derry Public Works to access the area with their mowers. William Lowenthal would like to thank Peg Kinsella, Diana Hill Lowenthal and James Degnan for their help in staking out the community garden plot.

*Tent Platforms and Firepit* - The public had been contacting different members for reservations in the past. There was discussion and a decision was made to have a (1) point of contact for the use of the tent platforms and for using the firepit at Broadview. A set of guidelines needs to be put into place. According to the deed, the property is to be used for educational purposes. A workshop will be forthcoming on this.

#### **Other Business:**

Anne Marie Chase has decided to step down from her position as Alternate Member. Thanks were given to Anne Marie for her service. If anyone is interested in the open position, please contact Chair, James Degnan at [nhdegnans@gmail.com](mailto:nhdegnans@gmail.com).

#### **Adjournment:**

William Lowenthal made a motion to adjourn. Ric Buzzanga seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Recording Clerk/ Ruth Robinson