



Derry Conservation Commission  
14 Manning St.  
Derry, NH 03038

### **Minutes of Public meeting of August 12, 2013**

On August 12, at 7:30 pm, the Derry Conservation Commission met in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room of the Derry Municipal Center.

The following members were present: Jim Arruda, Ric Buzzanga, James Degnan, Margaret Ives, Chair, Marianne Page, Richard Tripp and Dennis Wiley. Paul Dionne, Paul Doolittle, Beverly Ferrante and Peg Kinsella were absent. James Degnan sat for Paul Doolittle. Richard Tripp sat for Paul Dionne. Marianne Page sat for Beverly Ferrante,

### **Acceptance of Minutes:**

Richard Tripp made a motion to accept the minutes of July 8, 2013. Jim Arruda seconded the motion. Marianne Page, Ric Buzzanga and Beverly Ferrante abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

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

Richard Tripp made a motion to pay a bill from Staples for \$20.70 which was used for Go Green hand out's for information on invasives, to be taken from the Administrative Account. The money will be given to Dennis Wiley for re-imbursement. Ric Buzzanga seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A thank you note has been received from the South East Land Trust for a contribution DCC made to SELT. Brian Hart, director of SELT, met with Larry Boudreau, acting Town Administrator and Mike Fowler to explain to them what SELT does.

The NH Tree Farm Field day will be held in Canterbury, CT. September 7, 2013. Members were informed to contact UNH at 447-3834 for more info.

The Forest Society annual meeting will be held September 28, 2013. Chair will follow up with updated info on this.

A notice of the Coverts program has been received. The date of the program is September 18<sup>th</sup> thru the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Charlie Moreno will be attending a DCC meeting in September to review his Forestry Management Plan for Weber. Charlie's initial quote given for the plan was \$4,200. A previous timber cut was done at Weber around 1986-1989. The cut was done on 50 acres. A future cut would be for over 200 acres. Chair has met with Dave Gomez the Town Assessor. A permit for a timber cut would be filed for at the Assessing Department. Dave Gomez highly recommends this cut be done.

Chair has received notification of some info that was sent to the Environmental Protection Agency of NH from Marie Bruce of Stonegate Lane regarding abuse to the wetland in the Stonegate area. Since this development has an association, the association or DES should be contacted. Chair will inform Marie Bruce of this.

A Land Steward report has been received on a Grinnell site visit done by (Malia) Mary Till July 12<sup>th</sup>. The report noted fallen logs there.

#### **DES:**

*81 Chester Rd.* (Beaver Lake) A shoreland impact has been received. To install a pervious patio and fire pit more than 20 ft. from the reference line.

*4 English Range Rd.* A concern/complaint has been received. There is no record of a permit for the work being done. (A permit is required.)

*7:40 pm: Paul Doolittle and Beverly Ferrante are now seated.*

#### **Japanese Knotweed Update:**

Jim Arruda brought in a cut live sample of Japanese Knotweed to show the viewing public. Jim has been working with Doug Rathburn (IT Department) on GPS mapping of invasives. Doug Rathburn presented a map to the commission and gave a presentation. Doug has taken a map of invasives prepared by the State of NH, concentrated on the Derry area portion of this state map and overlaid the streets of Derry, the streams and tributaries in Derry. This map displays areas of Dames' Rocket, Garlic Mustard and Blunt Leaf Privet which have not quite taken over yet in Derry and are still treatable at this point. Jim Arruda would like to do some GPS work with Doug and create a color coded map of the knotweed and the other invasives to determine the size of these infested areas. This way priorities could then be set on the certain areas. The home owners of highly infested areas could be sent a letter of how to deal with the infestation.

After discussion, the commission members decided to:

- Split the map into 20 sections and utilize Go Green members, Land Stewards and any members of the public that would like to go out to track and mark the areas of infestation. This data could then be given to Doug Rathburn to create a specially marked map.
- To Utilize Derryfest as an opportunity to give handouts on invasives and a chance for people to sign up to help and get info.
- Set up a display at the library/continue educating the public.

**Eagle Scout Project Update:** Eagle Scout, Tyler Pascucci, Troop #405, gave an update. Tyler and members of troop #405 held a weekend camp out at the Low Property and got a lot of work done. They were able to complete 12 steps out of a 16 step process plan they had in place. They hope to complete the plan this week. The troops have cleared trails and marked the trails with red spray paint on the trees. Signage is being made. The loop trail has been connected. Tyler will be working with Doug Rathburn (IT) on mapping the trails. Tyler will also host a walk that will take place August 17, 2013 at 8:00 am. To attend the walk, meet at the end of Hubbard Hill Rd.

**Site Review:**

*8 Ferland Dr.* - Tax Map/Lot 31017-001- Kevin Hatch from Cornerstone Survey Associates of Chester, NH. gave the presentation. The area being reviewed is at the upper end of Hood Pond, (the last piece of property on Ferland Dr.) Right now 3.97 acres are undeveloped. This is area next to a **Prime Wetland**. The proposal is to build multi-family units with a cul-de-sac which would allow town services a turnaround area. The cul-de-sac would cause the buildings proposed to be pushed off to the sides of the property. Six of the housing units would be in the buffer zone and 3 of the units would not. A special exception regulation provision is being sought to allow a wetland setback to go from 150 foot setback requirement to a 75 foot setback. The property was a former sand pit with no vegetation. The town sewer line runs along the edge of the wetland. According to the plan, storm water runoff will be kept away from the wetland. An alternative would be to do away with the cul-de-sac in order to re-position the proposed buildings, but for safety concerns, there would not be a place for fire trucks, snowplows, etc. a turnaround. The wetland is ranked a 55 overall. Chair informed the members that there will be a special combined meeting August 15, 2013 with the Planning & Zoning Boards and Conservation Commission on this proposal. Chair reminded the commission members of the wildlife, the unique flora, the beautiful Heron and Canadian Geese that visit the pond & wetland and of the value of Hood Pond as a recreation area and Horn's Pond, which is just below Hood Pond. A site walk was scheduled for August 13, 2013 at 5:00 pm. Members were asked to reference the language of the special exception provision in the Zoning Board ordinances, page 124 section 165-80-a 4 (district provisions).

**Marianne Page made a comment to all:** She spoke of the time and efforts that it has taken throughout the years to get laws on the books for setback regulations to protect these wetlands. Yes there are special exceptions. This special exception provision was known about when this proposal was being drawn up yet development plans continued to go forward. If people keep applying for special exceptions

then why do we have these laws in place to protect the wetlands? Laws that people have worked so hard for. Wetlands are needed. They act like sponges in times of heavy rains and flooding. If everyone wanted to develop their land to its fullest and apply for special exceptions, there won't be any wetlands.

**Conservation activities Update:**

BF Gardens- looking great!

Low Walk – August 17, 2013 at 8:00 am

Summer intern Dan Cox has been clearing the storm trail off Gulf Rd. Dan will also refresh the sign at Weber and clear the area by the sign at the Fran Cormier Trail.

Derryfest – September 21, 2013

Fall clean-up – October 19 thru the 21<sup>st</sup>

**Other Business:**

Dennis Wiley has looked into purchasing weed wrenches at a cost of \$155.00 each and \$34.00 for shipping from Oregon. The wrenches will be used by the commission or loaned out to the public.

Ric Buzzanga made a motion to purchase (2) medium size weed wrenches at a cost up to \$400.00 to be taken from the Administrative Account. Paul Doolittle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Go green would like to purchase two hooded recycling bins to use at Derryfest at a cost of \$42.00 each. The bins can be used at other events.

Ric Buzzanga made a motion to take \$84.00 from the Administrative Account to purchase 2 recycle bins for Go Green. Paul Doolittle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

Ric Buzzanga made a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 9:10 pm and enter into Non-public meeting per RSA 91-A:3(d) Consideration of the acquisition or lease of property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community.

Paul Doolittle seconded the motion. All members were polled and voted yes. Motion carried.

Clerk/Ruth Robinson