

CITY OF DOVER

DOVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council Conference Room - 288 Central Avenue Dover NH
Meeting Date: Monday, July 11, 2022
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Atwood (Secretary), Jason Aube, Amy Kramer-Perry, Abigail Lyon, Kristen Murphy, Bruce Batchelder

Absent (Excused): Steve Fellows (Vice Chair)

Absent (Un-excused): Richard Erickson, Bill Hunt (Chair)

STAFF PRESENT: Jackson Kaspari – Resilience Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Lindsey Williams (City Council), Nicole Martin, Matt Cardin

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:33 PM.

Atwood opened the meeting and did a roll call.

2. CITIZENS' FORUM: None

3. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – June 13, 2022

A. Lyon moved to approve the June 13, 2022 minutes, A. Kramer-Perry seconded. Vote: 4 yes, 2 abstentions.

4. OLD BUSINESS: None

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (Agent: VHB, Inc.), Assessor's Maps K-1 and M-1, covering various lots within the utility right of way, zoned R-12 and R-40. Proposal is to replace five deficient utility structures/poles along the R169 Electric Transmission Line creating 8,778 square feet of temporary wetland impact and 32,838 square feet of combined temporary buffer impact to the Conservation and Wetland Protection Districts.

Nicole Martin with VHB was present to explain the application.

The wood utility poles will be replaced with steel poles to better withstand the conditions in New Hampshire. No tree removal is proposed. Existing access roads will be utilized. The project is planned to commence in the fall outside of the growing season. Timber matting will be utilized. Erosion controls will be implemented as needed such as installing silt socks. These controls will be monitored weekly by a VHB consultant to ensure they are functioning as intended. The intent is to limit the potential of invasive species migration by inspecting equipment and materials before they are brought on site and removing any material by hand or compressed air. Topsoil and seed will be spread over impacted areas such as the gravel access road upon completion of the project. There are no proposed impacts that will permanently alter the wetland functions and values. Numerous site walks were conducted to determine the best access routes to limit proposed temporary impacts.



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K. Murphy: Do the poles have a pad associated with them and is that the 100 ft x 100 ft area you referred to?

N. Martin: That area is the maximum work area. Some of the disturbance areas will be smaller.

A. Kramer-Perry: How long do you expect the project to take?

M. Cardin: The work will be completed by the end of October.

A. Kramer-Perry: Will the site be evaluated in the spring after completion?

N. Martin: Yes, that is standard practice.

J. Aube motioned to endorse the application citing that the applicant made a clear attempt to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands, coordinated with NH Fish and Game and are only proposing temporary impacts. A. Lyon seconded. Vote: 6 yes.

6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

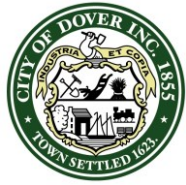
A. Review of Correspondence Received from NH Department of Environmental Services

J. Kaspari: While not an official correspondence, I wanted to update the Commission that the Great Bay Yacht Club filed for a permit by notification for the repair on an existing tidal access structure.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Update from Committee on Amendments to Wetland Protection District Ordinance

J. Kaspari: B. Batchelder, A. Lyon and K. Murphy were present at the last meeting. Planning and Community Development Director Benton went through short/medium term items that she felt were achievable versus more long-term items. Biggest change that came out of this review process was proposing to move the NH Method criteria to be included as part of the Conditional Use Permit requirements. No official vote was made but much of the language was kept for the other sections. Benton is now working on a revised draft which will be voted on by the Committee and the updates are intended to be included for Spring 2023.



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J. Kaspari: There are a couple more updates pertaining to the Commission. I've been coordinating with Environmental Projects Manager Young regarding mitigation opportunities and she provided me with an initial list. She sent a request out to other staff within Community Services for their input. I'm going to provide some feedback as well.

A. Lyon: Regarding the initial list, is it possible to provide some description on how the prioritization was done?

J. Kaspari: Yes, I can ask for that.

K. Murphy: It would be helpful to have some information about what wetlands would be helped, either restored or improved.

J. Kaspari: A map might be helpful for this as well and that could be updated over time.

K. Murphy: The aquatic restoration mapper is a helpful tool as well.

J. Kaspari also notified the Commission that he was accepted into the NH Sea Grant CoastWise program and that he passed his defense for a Ph.D. in Chemistry.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A. Lyon motioned to adjourn. A. Kramer-Perry seconded. Vote: 6 yes.