

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, November 13, 2023
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Robert Atwood, Abigail Lyon, Jay Aube, Kristin Murphy, Amy Kramer Perry, Bruce Batchelder (Alternate)

Absent (Excused): Jake Geddes

STAFF PRESENT: Jackson Kaspari – Resilience Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Councilor Williams, Kathleen Blake, Paul Pouliot, Whitney Carrier, Wade Lippert, Jessica Graustein, Autumn Scott (Virtual)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM.

2. CITIZENS' FORUM

A member of the public mentioned he has materials relating to the Foraging item if anyone has questions and the Chair noted this item will be discussed as an agenda item tonight.

3. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – October 10, 2023

S. Fellows moved to approve the minutes of October 10th as submitted. A. Lyon seconded.

Vote: 4 yes with Murphy, Aube and Kramer Perry abstaining.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Recognizing Traditional Foraging Rights on City of Dover Public Conservation Lands

The Commission received a resolution describing what the City is proposing. The document has been reviewed by City Attorney and the Commission may vote to adopt this policy tonight if it chooses.

J. Kaspari noted there has been discussion about this topic at previous meetings. At the last meeting, the Commission sought additional input from Open Lands and Racial Equity Committees. The resolution was reviewed, and edits were submitted and included in the version for review tonight. Once the Commission votes to adopt it, it will go to City Council. He highlighted the changes to the document since the last review.

The Commission members discussed the document and made additional requests for edits.

Public Comment:

K. Blake, W. Carrier and P. Pouliot spoke in favor of the policy as presented.

S. Fellows moved the Conservation Commission adopt the policy. A. Lyon seconded. Vote: 7 yes.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Portsmouth Christian Academy, (Agent: Oak Point Associates), Assessor's Map J, Lot 1-C, zoned R-40, located at 20 Seaborne Drive. Proposal is to expand the existing playground area creating 607 square feet of temporary impact and 3,852 square feet of permanent impact to the wetland buffer.

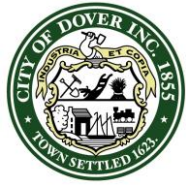
Wade Lippert, Oak Point Associates represented the application, gave an overview of the project involving expanding a playground area and reviewed the project plans.

2023.11.13_ConservationCommission.Minutes

Document Created by: Planning Dept

Posted: February 14, 2024

Page 1 of 2



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, November 13, 2023
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

Mr. Lippert addressed questions relating to grass lawn versus mulch, impervious surfaces, wetland location, topography, timeline, drainage system and location and trees.

Discussion occurred about letting a portion of the lawn return to a natural condition to offset the buffer impact.

S. Fellows moved to endorse the CUP contingent upon the applicant attempting to return a similar square footage of the previously mowed wetland buffer area to a natural state with emphasis placed on an educational opportunity for the students. K. Murphy seconded. Vote: 7 yes.

The Commission clarified for the applicant that this is a recommendation for the Planning Board who will have the ultimate approving authority.

B. Natural Resources Inventory Kickoff

Autumn Scott, Strafford Regional Planning Commission (attending virtually) presented the information including the project process, workflow, project funding, project staff, goals, uses and timeline.

The goal of the project is to develop an inventory of Dover's natural resources to be used as a tool for land use boards and staff to utilize.

Members, J. Kaspari and Ms. Scott brainstormed and discussed additional uses and goals for the project.

Kramer Perry left at 6:34 pm and B. Batchelder moved into a voting role.

6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

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

J. Kaspari noted an update that an appeal was filed, and he will keep everyone up to date as it progresses.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Update from Forest Management Subcommittee

S. Fellows reported they formally installed Russ Warnock to the subcommittee and discussed the pocket forest/ restoration project near Garrison School. J. Kaspari noted he is working with John Storrer on irrigation options for that project.

8. ADJOURNMENT

S. Fellows moved to adjourn. A. Lyon seconded. Vote: 7 yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.