

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, March 11, 2024
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Kristen Murphy, Abigail Lyon, Robert Atwood (Secretary), Jay Aube

Absent (Excused): Jake Geddes, Amy Kramer Perry

Absent (Unexcused): Bruce Batchelder (Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Jackson Kaspari – Resilience Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Autumn Scott, Russ Warnock, Councilor Williams

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM.

2. CITIZENS' FORUM

None

3. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES- FEBRUARY 12, 2024

S. Fellows moved to approve the minutes of February 12th as submitted. K. Murphy seconded.

Vote: 3 yes with Lyon, Atwood and Aube abstaining

4. OLD BUSINESS:

None

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. First Five Minutes for Dover's Conservation and Open Space Priorities

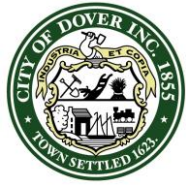
J. Kaspari noted one of the elements to the vision chapter update is to take five minutes at public meetings to discuss the chapter. He read the goal of the chapter and ways the public can engage and next steps.

B. Natural Resources Inventory Project Update

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, staff and public to utilize.

Autumn Scott, Strafford Regional Planning Commission updated and discussed the following with the Commission:

- Review of how the workshop went
 - Questions asked of the public and feedback given
 - Commission members comments and discussion regarding the feedback
 - Autumn will provide an engagement summary
- Survey
 - Review of the survey questions and suggested edits
 - J. Kaspari reviewed the master plan survey questions for comparison
 - Discussion on merging questions, rewording, merging surveys, multiple ways to give feedback
 - Discussion on City social media processes
- Timeline review



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- Contract update
- Come back to Commission to discuss what type of study is desired
- First draft of NRI should be available for the April meeting
- Combined Survey mockup and shown to Resilience Planning next week at staff meeting to determine if combined survey is desired. Survey to be sent out in March

C. 2024 Urban Street Tree Project - \$20,000 funding request

J. Kaspari stated last year there was a goal to do 10 street trees which was successful. The Forest Management subcommittee wishes to continue this effort. 10 trees a year would just be keeping up. If we're able to do more, that would be better. Community Services Director reported his staff can handle 15 per planting season. The \$20,000 request is to bid out for the 15 trees and get them installed by staff – likely in batches of five in April/May.

Forest Management subcommittee made the formal request at their last meeting for the Commission to support this. Proposed location was discussed.

J. Kaspari noted a study was done for pedestrian and vehicular traffic improvements and streetscape design improvements on the main corridor of Central Ave which are slated in the CIP to be done in 2030. Therefore, it is best to focus street trees in other areas since the roads in that area may get reconfigured.

J. Kaspari updated the Commission on the amount of money in the funds:
Approximately \$670,000 is remaining following the use of \$770,000 for two approved projects.

S. Fellows moved to approve up to \$20,000 from the Conservation Fund for the purchase and planting of up to 15 street trees in 2024. A. Lyon seconded. Vote: U/A.

Discussion occurred about details of the trees.

D. Willand Pond Milfoil Treatment

J. Kaspari informed the Commission on the background of this issue. NHDES says they can treat it and have offered to fund half if the City will fund the other half. Staff requests the Commission support spending funds on this effort which will be about \$20,000.

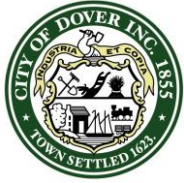
J. Kaspari gave details about the pond and the treatment. Discussion ensued about more details about the treatment, options, preventative steps.

S. Fellows moved that the Commission support the milfoil treatment effort with the understanding that untreated milfoil would have a more adverse impact on Willand Pond than the herbicide application and that a long-term integrated pest management plan be developed for the Pond. A. Lyon seconded.
Vote: U/A.

6. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

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

Already addressed



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7. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Update from Forest Management Subcommittee

S. Fellows reported on the latest discussion topics

- Street trees and future downtown redesign already addressed
- Potential new site for pocket forest instead of Garrison School
- Forest Management parcel site walk
- Request from Joe Parks Garden for tree replacement. Seven to be replaced, request of the Commission to adopt one tree for replacement.

A. Lyon moved to approve \$1,500 from the Conservation Fund for donating a tree to the Joe Parks Garden – Adopt A Tree Initiative. S. Fellows seconded. Vote: U/A

B. This is Jay's last meeting on the Commission.

C. Discussion about dues. Revisit this at a future meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A. Lyon moved to adjourn. S. Fellows seconded. Vote: U/A
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.