

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, January 8, 2024
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Abigail Lyon, Kristen Murphy, Amy Kramer Perry, Jake Geddes, Jay Aube

Absent (Excused): Bill Hunt (Chair), Robert Atwood

Absent (Unexcused):

STAFF PRESENT: Jackson Kaspari – Resilience Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Councilor Williams, Autumn Scott (Virtual), Donna Benton- Director of Community Development

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM.

2. ANNUAL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2024

Tabled to the February meeting

3. CITIZENS' FORUM

None

4. OLD BUSINESS:

None

5. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES – December 11, 2023

A. Lyon moved to approve the minutes of December 11th as submitted. A. Kramer Perry seconded.

Vote: 3 yes, 2 abstain

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Conservation Fund Request for Staff Administrative Costs

Donna Benton, Planning and Community Development Director was present to make the request. She noted this is a yearly request.

Jay Aube arrived at this time.

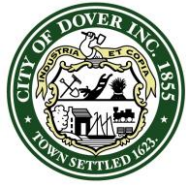
Discussion occurred confirming the requested funds are available in the fund.

A. Lyon moved to authorize the use of \$100,000 from the Conservation Fund for staff administrative costs. J. Geddes seconded. Vote: 6 yes.

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 and staff to utilize.

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



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- Descriptions of Maps created
 - Asked the members to review the maps and decide how they want the information displayed on the Conservation Land Map (ownership/ publicly accessible or not etc.)
 - Would the members like a Forest Soils Map?

Discussion occurred about how frequently an NRI would be updated.

Autumn showed each map, and some questions and ideas were clarified by members.

She asked for the members to look through the maps in the next week and provide feedback so the maps can be updated by the February meeting.

- Public Survey-Sample survey questions were provided
 - Asked for feedback on the questions, keeping in mind the goal is to find out how people are using natural resources in the community and how aware they are of them.

Some questions were discussed/ feedback given.

C. Letter of Support for NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Proposal

J. Kaspari informed the members of a project involving replacement of the Sixth St bridge. He initially thought a letter of support from the Commission would be beneficial as it is a mitigation priority for the committee. He has since learned from the project partners that they are envisioning letters of collaboration coming from the project managers.

A. Lyon gave additional information about the project as a whole. The timeline was also reviewed.

D. Conservation and Open Space Chapter Steering Committee

J. Kaspari noted that folks are needed for the steering committee and a Conservation Commission member would be ideal. He noted the other member criteria.

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

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

J. Kaspari noted they've received a wetlands permit notification regarding repair of a docking station.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Update from Forest Management Subcommittee

S. Fellows reported on the latest discussion topics

- Potential pocket forest at Garrison School
- Street tree plantings for 2024

J. Kaspari noted UNH has accepted the Urban Forestry Fellow proposal and the job is posted.

9. ADJOURNMENT

J. Aube moved to adjourn. A Lyon seconded. Vote: 6 yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.