

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 12, 2026
Meeting Time: 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Hunt (Chair), Steve Fellows (Vice Chair), Robert Atwood (Secretary), Russ Warnock, Brianna Group (Alternate), Kristen Murphy, Abigail Lyon, Brendan Mulhall (Alternate)

Absent (Excused):

Absent (Unexcused):

STAFF PRESENT: Makayla Edgecomb (Conservation Planner) Donna Benton (Director of Planning and Community Development)

OTHERS PRESENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was convened at 5:30 PM.

2. CITIZENS' FORUM

The Chair gave instructions for Citizens' forum
(None)

3. APPROVAL OF THE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES- December 8, 2025

R. Warnock moved to approve the minutes of December 8th as submitted. R. Atwood seconded. Vote: 4 in favor with 4 abstentions.

4. MEMBER VOTING:

The current officers all agreed to serve another year unless someone else was interested.
The members voted all in favor for the slate of officers as is for another year.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Grant Updates: Ash trees, Willand Pond, LCHIP

M. Edgecomb gave updates on various grant applications:

Ash Trees: Grant received

Willand Pond: Grant received

LCHIP: Grant received

All grants will go before Council on the 14th and 28th. Once accepted by the City, requests for bids will go out. M. Edgecomb updated the Commission on the next steps in the process for each project.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Conservation Fund Request for Staff Administration Cost

Chair Hunt and D. Benton presented the item and answered questions from the members regarding the fund status.

Discussion ensued whether the Conservation Fund should cover any staff salary fees. The members agreed they will fund it this time so nothing is held up, but they all want to discuss this further and gather more information about how this came to be before any future requests.

R. Warnock moved to approve the requested funding for staff. Seconded by: A. Lyon. Vote: 6 in favor with 0 opposed.

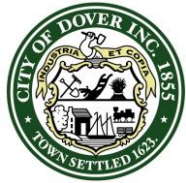
2026.01.12_ConservationCommission.Minutes

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Page 1 of 3



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B. Review of Donated Conservation Easement: Stonearch Trail

M. Edgecomb and D. Benton explained the item giving background information.

A. Lyon moved to recommend acceptance of the donation with the condition the Open Lands Committee is in favor. Seconded by: R. Atwood. Vote: 6 in favor.

C. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Paul Sapienza, Assessor's Map 7, Lot 1 zoned R-20, Riverfront Residential located at 3 Boston Harbor Rd. Proposal is for 4,887 s.f. of temporary impacts and 19,382 s.f. of permanent impacts to the Conservation District to develop a hybrid living shoreline with the goal to become storm resilient and protect the property from anticipated sea level rise. (COND-2025-0032)

Luke Taylor presented the item and explained the hybrid living shoreline proposal and details. He answered clarifying questions about the proposal for the commission members.

A. Lyon moved to endorse the proposal as presented. Seconded by: R. Atwood. Vote: 5 in favor with 1 opposed and 0 abstaining.

D. City of Dover Conditional Use Permit for Rushmore Stepanek Family Revocable Trust Rushmore Stepanek Family Revocable Trust, Assessor's Map L Lot 47 B zoned R-20 located at 191 Spur Rd. Proposal is to rebuild a sunroom, deck, and patio within a similar footprint to the existing in the Conservation District. Proposal results in 1,214 s.f. of permanent impacts and 1,430 s.f. of temporary impacts. Please note that the changes will result in a 177 s.f. decrease in impervious surface. (COND-2025-0034).

Vincent Brigagliano, TF Moran presented the item and explained the details of the proposal. He answered questions from the commission members.

R. Warnock moved to endorse the project as presented with the condition the silt sock location be adjusted on the plan to reflect temporary impact. Seconded by: S. Fellows. Vote: 6 in favor with 0 opposed and 0 abstaining.

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

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

M. Edgecomb noted no correspondence received.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

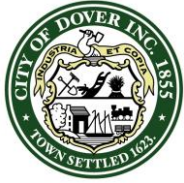
A. Update from Forest Management Subcommittee

- a. No meeting since the last Conservation meeting

B. Nature Groupie

- a. B. Group gave an update and explained some ideas

2026.01.12_ConservationCommission.Minutes



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Other Items

The commission members discussed with M. Edgecomb and D. Benton the HS athletic field project and whether conditions of approval are being adhered to.

Smith well signs: M. Edgecomb spoke to water treatment staff and they support no trespassing signage, as it is a public drinking supply area.

Members thought some recreation should be allowed, and mentioned no trespassing signs just around certain areas.

M. Edgecomb will discuss with Water Treatment and Community services on a solution.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A. Lyon moved to adjourn. S. Fellows seconded. Vote: U/A

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

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