

MINUTES
NEW DURHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
26 JULY 2016

Present: Commission members Ron Gehl (Chair), Curtis Richard (Vice Chair), Mark Sullivan, Heather Freeman, Bill Malay (Alternate), Bob Craycraft (Alternate).

Others Present: Mike Gelin, Patti Connaughton-Burns (Moose Mountains Regional Greenways)

Chair Gehl called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and designated Mr. Malay and Mr. Craycraft to sit as voting members. Chair Gehl welcomed Heather Freeman as the newest member of the Commission.

Public Input

Mike Gelin reported on conditions in and around Downing's Pond, which recently has been found to contain cyanobacteria. He found higher apparent impact in deeper water and areas where current was flowing, and suggested possible impact from septic systems in the area. Sonja Carlson is the contact at the Department of Environmental Services (DES), and Bob Craycraft was asked to keep abreast of results of further testing. Mike will be conducting further testing with others and will collect more observations.

Patti Connaughton-Burns, recently-hired Executive Director of Moose Mountains Regional Greenways (MMRG), introduced herself to Commission members and presented a map of conservation lands in New Durham for the Commission to review for possible omissions. Members remarked that the map seemed complete. MMRG is beginning work on a regional Conservation Action Plan that will involve Conservation Commission members in the seven-town region, and will include several public input/visioning sessions to include many stakeholders beginning in late September. All Members are urged to participate.

Review of Minutes

The minutes of June 28 were reviewed, with one minor amendment made. Motion to approve by Bob Craycraft, seconded by Mark Sullivan. Unanimously approved, with Ron Gehl and Heather Freeman abstaining.

Review of Applications

Wetlands Permit Application – Raslavicus, Map 101/Lot 32, N. Shore Road. Minor shoreland wall restoration and associated impact. Motion by Mark Sullivan, seconded by Bill Malay to approve the application and forward to DES. The motion was unanimously approved.

Wetlands Permit Application – Wood Realty Trust, Map 28/Lots 33/34, S. Shore Road. Minor shoreland wall restoration and associated impact. Motion by Bill Malay, seconded by Mark Sullivan to approve the application and forward to DES. The motion was unanimously approved.

Review of Mail

The Commission reviewed incoming mail.

Other/Old Business

Some discussion of the redrafting of the Master Plan Natural Resources subsection. Mark Sullivan is developing a PowerPoint presentation to help guide discussion and serve as a more simplified, direct representation of goals, strategies and tactics. Members are encouraged to attend public input session on August 4.

At 8:20 PM Mark Sullivan made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Richard seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Gehl, Chair.