

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2026 7PM

Attendance

- Present: Kathi Bradt, Janet Slocum, Lisa Hyatt, Geoff Jones
- Not Available: Lindley Hanson Mark Girard, Robin Ungeheuer
- Public Attendance: None

Review/approve minutes

- May minutes – need to wait for quorum

Public (if any)

Administration, Organizational, and Finance

• Funds/Budget

Forest Maintenance Fund \$3,916.97 -> (+) 3917.13; (+) \$0.16
interest

Conservation Land Use Fund \$33,136.55 -> \$33,137.92; (+) \$1.37
interest

Unchanged from last time

- All Boards Meeting – June 22 at 6 PM – Janet will talk about needed changes to the Conservation Zone Ordinance see below

Forestry and Conservation

- Dodge Brook Class A trail has been ordered – Janet will contact abutters before it is installed
- Land and Wildlife Protection
- Permits, complaints, and inquiries
 - W&C Creed M201 L27 - on Crescent Lake – DES permit approved
 - M Limoges M201 L87 - on Crescent Lake – DES permit approved
 - M Hallee M201 L59 - on Crescent Lake – DES permit approved
- Acworth Forest Harvest (map 249, lot 9) – No change; Mark G. is seeking the logger's recommendations for the harvesting and skidding of the timber cut, working directly for the town.
- Easement Monitoring – Is it time to start planning for the fall?
Mark – SPNHF - Keyes Hollow and the town's South Acworth Forest Assessment has been completed ConCom awaiting report.
- Pollinator Garden
 - o Library lecture on Pollinator Gardens –June 23 at 7PM at Town Hall
 - o Lisa coordinated with the Library to get a speaker from Healthy Home Habitats in Keene.
 - o Lisa will coordinate advertising the event with the Library
 - o Pollinator garden is planted and mulched
 - o Approved up to \$200 in spending for mulch, markers, signs, etc
- Future concerns:
 - o Land Conservation opportunities – no change; Sirkin Gove Road, Gates Mountain Road, and Hill Road properties. An effort is required to define generic conservation land options for landowners.

Water Protection (Crescent Lake, Cold River, watersheds, wetlands, ponds, and perennial streams)

- Conservation Zone Ordinance update–
 - Discussed changes to the ordinance to make the definition of the Conservation Zone more explicit as well as updating it to match the Crescent Lake Zone.
- Private well testing – Stephen Murray organized free testing with DES July 29. Amazing Job!
- Keyes Hollow Wetland Assessment Review - Update on RFP's for Keyes Hollow Assessments – Gregg - Extended the RFP period by 3 weeks, which ended on 5 June. Checking to see if we had any additional responses.
- Crescent Lake
 - Watershed assessment update – Gregg - ClearTrust approved a grant for a project manager. Priorities have been established, and the project manager, with support from the water quality group, is enabling actions for the first 5 priorities.
 - Land Survey update – We have 4 landowners to meet with, and once complete, the surveyor can put all the boundary markers out. The next step will be to determine if one of our land trust partners is interested in conserving this parcel. Reminder: this will require a public hearing and a warrant article before we can move forward with the conservation easement.
- Cold River
 - UVLSRPC – culvert inventory report is expected this month
 - DES Wants to start Cold River Council – looking for volunteers from Acworth – Lindley will write about in article

Communications, Training, and Outreach

- Community Outreach
 - Newsletter – next topics and next writer(s); draft due the 20th of the prior month
 - Janet July Lupine & Karner Blue - approved
 - Lindley Aug Cold River morphology
 - Other possible educational topics: climate change impacts; land conservation options.
 - Volunteer Field Events - Keyes Hollow Nature Trail; Gove Road Stream Erosion Effort; educational sessions with speakers; collaborative events with other ConCom or conservation agencies. Many suggestions on walks/talks to keep pollinator momentum going.
- Training Opportunities

- o CC Trail Maintenance & Design Training June 19
<https://nhacc.wufoo.com/forms/phlgdzt0f6mkjq/>

Next Meeting – 8 July 2026 at 7 pm in the Town Hall.