

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2026

Attendance

- Present – Robin Ungeheuer, Janet Slocum (member), Gregg Thibodeau (member, co-chair), Lisa Hyatt (alt), Rob Traver (member)
- Absent – Mark Girard, Lindley Hanson (alt), Kathi Bradt (select board), Jennifer Bland (member, co-chair)

Review/approve minutes

- December 17th minutes - Janet motioned, Rob seconded. Motion passed.

Public (if any)

Administration, Organizational, and Finance

- **Funds/Budget**
 - Forest Maintenance Fund \$3,916.33 -> \$3,916.48 (+) \$0.15 interest
 - Conservation Land Use Fund \$16,112.79 -> \$18,133.47; (+) \$0.68 interest & (+) \$2,020 LUCT.
- **End of Year Town Report** – no further changes. Gregg to submit.
- **By-Laws and Conservation Plan** – No change; both will be reviewed in March of 2026. Conservation plan review will include stating specific projects and efforts for the current year.
- **Term Ends in Mar 2026** – Gregg, Jen & Rob’s terms are up this March. Kathi’s role as the Select Board representative will be determined in the March timeframe at the Select Board meeting. Rob and Gregg do not intend to seek a reappointment.
 - Rob will continue to support the Keyes Hollow Wetland assessment effort.
 - Gregg will continue to support the Keyes Hollow Wetland assessment effort through the completion of the 2 assessments. Gregg will continue his role on the Crescent Lake Water Quality Group until plans are defined for the first 3 years. He will also continue to support the survey and conservation of the town-owned lot on Crescent Lake and the Upper Valley Planning Commission's stream crossing effort.
 - Gregg to inform all members of the commission to determine if any member is interested in the chair position. If not, then we’ll begin a solicitation effort with the Select Board, Facebook, flyers, and an announcement at the town meeting.
 - Gregg is prepared to support the onboarding of a chair, vice chair, or co-chairs.
 - Janet expressed some interest in a co-chair arrangement. Especially if all efforts to identify replacements prove unsuccessful.
- **Continuity Plan**
 - A draft of the plan was provided to all members. Gregg added sections for Concom’s website, email, online and hardcopy documents, equipment, and books. The current list of projects or efforts was also added.

Forestry and Conservation

- **Land and Wildlife Protection**
 - Intents to cut – None
 - Permits, complaints, and inquiries - None
 - Acworth Forest Harvest (map 249, lot 9) – Mark G. is seeking the logger's recommendations for the harvesting and skidding of the timber cut, working directly for the town.
 - 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.

- Easement Monitoring – Pending the following reports – Jen – LCIP - Five Points, Sugar House, Moody, & SPNHF - Black North; Gregg - LCIP – Clark Hillside, Clark Sugar House, and SPNHF Gove Road; Mark – SPNHF - Keyes Hollow and the town’s South Acworth Forest
- Pollinator Pathway Update – Janet, Lisa, Lindley – Janet and Lisa have started seedlings.
- **Water Protection** (Crescent Lake, Cold River, watersheds, wetlands, ponds, and perennial streams)
 - Keyes Hollow Wetland Assessment Review
 - Rob reached out to Lauren Zielinski of CT River Conservancy to begin work to have a functional assessment and options assessment completed. Final reports need to support an Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund grant requirement.
 - Lauren had questions regarding the town process for bids and fiscal agent responsibilities.
 - Rob and Gregg will begin the process of obtaining a \$4000 grant from the Acworth Charitable Trust. Along with an additional \$3000 to \$4000 from Concom and/or ClearTrust.
 - Crescent Lake
 - Watershed assessment update – Water Quality Group has received a “proceed” approval from Crescent Lake Association to vet out funding and the hiring of a project manager.
 - Land Survey update – 3 properties remain for boundary discussions and agreements.
 - Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) – Stream, ditch, and culvert inventory effort. Gregg will follow up with UVLSRPC to get a current status.

Communications, Training, and Outreach

- **Community Outreach**
 - Newsletter – next topics and next writer(s); draft due the 20th of the prior month
 - Gregg Feb and March Endangered Species 2 parts
 - Gregg Apr Crescent Lake Watershed Assessment
 - 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.

Next Meeting – 11 Feb 2026 at 7 pm in the Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Conservation Commission Members

- Jennifer Bland (co-chair) (3/2026)
- Gregg Thibodeau (co-chair) (3/2026)
- Kathi Bradt (Select Board rep.) (3/2026)
- Mark Girard (member) (3/2027)
- Janet Slocum (member) (3/2028)
- Rob Traver (member) (3/2026)
- Lisa Hyatt (alternate) (3/2027)
- Lindley Hanson (alternate) (3/2028)
- Robin Ungeheuer (alternate) (3/2027)

Concom Volunteers

- Jennifer Griffin
- Terry Mattson
- Scott Travers
- Chip Colello
- David Heacock

Contact information:

- Webpage <https://www.acworthnh.net/conservation-commission>
- Email acworthconservation@gmail.com
- Meeting 7:00 p.m. every 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Town Hall
- Mail 13 Town Hall Rd., P.O. Box 37, Acworth, NH 03601, Attention: Conservation Commission
- Phone 603-835-6879 (town office)