

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2026

Attendance

Present: Kathi Bradt, Janet Slocum, Lindley Hanson

Not Available : Mark Girard, Robin Ungeheuer, Lisa Hyatt, Geoff Jones

Public Attendance : Gregg Thibodeau

Review/approve minutes

- April minutes – Kathi motion 1st, Lindley 2nd

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

- ACC logo – liked Lisa's option #2 with 2 Maple trees instead of Pines; – voted and approved 3/0
- Camps at Orchard Hill – Eleanor Ebers requested \$600 for financial support for Acworth campers – voted and approved 3/0
- US Forest Service letter – not needed because the forest service no longer in jeopardy

Forestry and Conservation

- Land and Wildlife Protection
 - Logging on 123A towards Marlow
 - Intents to cut
 - Bascom Moody/Stebens Rd –233-18 & 233-16 ; 62/85 Acres – Contains Milliken Brook – no concerns
 - Bascom Derry Hill Rd – 233-15 ; 45/132 Acres – no concerns
 - Bascom Charlestown Rd – 220-9. 130/272 Acres - no concerns
 - Jurkoic – Lynn Hill & Clough Rd 223-13 & 224-1 ; 200+/476A 430MBF, 1250 tons,900 cord – was permitted last year but no logging done – no concerns, has stewardship plan and this may be a good time to meet and greet to talk about plan & support
- Permits, complaints, and inquiries
 - 6 Beryl Mt - addendum , map concerns, ZBA hearing

We had a long discussion about the permitting process and the need to have more time and communication between various boards during this process. Discussed issues with GRANITview mapping buffers for rivers and streams. Janet will investigate some options, and Lindley will explore Goggle Earth. Ultimately the ConCom can only provide a rough estimate of where the various zones are and it's the responsibility of the property owner to survey/measure to determine the actual extent of the various zones.

 - R Belliveau M258 L14 – Livermore & Cobb Rd, no concerns
 - Donahue M229 L11.1 - Turkey Shoot Rd , no concerns

- 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 – Jen submitted all reports; Gregg submitted all reports; Mark – SPNHF - Keyes Hollow and the town's South Acworth Forest -Assessment has been completed ConCom awaiting report
- Future concerns:
 - 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)

- Definition of Conservation Zone – discussed that the wording of the Conservation Zone needed to be tightened up to better define which streams and ponds are included in the zone. Also discussed that on properties where the Shoreland Protection Act and the Conservation Zone overlap that the Shoreland Protection Act should supersede. This would simplify the process from 2 permitting bodies to 1. This is already done on Crescent Lake. In the Conservation Zone, this would effect property on the Cold River, Dodge Brook and 250 ft up from the confluence of a stream that enters either the Cold River or Dodge Brook. Janet will begin working on a draft of the new ordinance in order to get it out by Fall.
- Keyes Hollow Wetland Assessment Review
 - CT River Conservancy coordination
 - Update on RFP's for Keyes Hollow Assessments – have 1 response to the functional assessment and have reopened the restorative assessment. Ct River Conservancy has 2 people that will apply to the reissued RFP.
- Crescent Lake
 - Watershed assessment update – Water Quality Group project management – awaiting a Clean Trust Grant Review then will hire a project manager
 - Land Survey update – current state and next steps –
 - UVLSRPC – culvert survey update
 - 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
 - Geoff June Forest Service - will email before the 20th
 - Janet July Lupine & Karner Blue
 - Lindley Aug Cold River morphology
 - Other possible educational topics: climate change impacts; land conservation options.
 - Greenup Day April 25 (Sat) and 26 (Sun) - report on collection, 30 bags collected

- Volunteer Field Events - Keyes Hollow Nature Trail; Gove Road Stream Erosion Effort; educational sessions with speakers; collaborative events with other ConCom or conservation agencies.
- It was suggested that we do a community walk – either on Dodge Brook of Keyes Hollow. It would involve making sure the trail was cleared first and then just publicizing the date of our walk. Its a low work way to engage.
- Training Opportunities
 - May 12: Zoom Workshop: Make your turtle Sightings Count: <https://harriscenter.org/events/making-your-turtle-sightings-count>
 - June 8: Land Management Practices for NH Turtles - Reservoir Woods in Walpole <https://www.cheshireconservation.org/event-details/land-management-practices-for-new-hampshire-turtles-a-turtle-wildlife-workshop>
 - CC Trail Maintenance & Design Training June 19 <https://nhacc.wufoo.com/forms/phlgdZr0f6mkjq/>

Next Meeting – 10 June 2026 at 7 pm in the Town Hall.