



Derry Conservation Commission  
14 Manning St.  
Derry NH 03038

**Minutes of Public Meeting December 12, 2011**

On December 12, 2011 at 7:30 pm, the Derry Conservation Commission met in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room of the Derry Municipal Center.

The following members were present: Jim Arruda, Ric Buzzanga, James Degnan Paul Doolittle, Beverly Ferrante, Margaret Ives, Chair, Richard Tripp and Dennis Wiley. Paul Dionne and Marianne Page were absent. Peg Kinsella sat for Paul Dionne.

**Acceptance of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Ric Buzzanga to accept the minutes of November 14, 2011 with corrections. The motion was seconded by Jim Arruda. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Chair's Report:**

Chair informed the commission that she received a letter from Big Island Pond Corporation stating that they are concerned about the increasing salt levels measured in the pond which comes from treating roads to melt snow and ice. The letter has been given to Mike Fowler.

Town & City Magazine Nov-Dec publication contains an article on 2012 legislative session.

The Wetlands Council has asked to reschedule the Right to Know Hearing (20 Lawrence Rd.) from December 13, 2011 to February 28, 2012 at 9:00 am. The hearing will be held at Hazen Dr.

The Southern NH Planning Commission will be holding a planners round table for the Natural Resources Advisory Committee, December 13, 2011 at 3:00 pm. Beverly Ferrante (Derry Farmer's Market Director) will be speaking at 3 o'clock. The information on the event was passed around.

**Des:**

A report has been received from DES: an application has been received for 310 Island Pond. The file # is (201103748).

A report has been received from DES on 5 Westview Drive Dredge & Fill, (Edward & John Cooper). The report states that they have received Derry Conservation Commission's response and that they have read the comments made by DCC.

Bartlett Rd. Subdivision – DES has accepted an application on 11-23-2011. DCC has already done a site walk there. Chair will send DES a copy of the DCC minutes that references that walk.

Chair has received a letter from DES requesting comments on a Dredge and Fill application from Jean Gagnon for the property on 103 Old Chester Rd.(Adams Pond). This will be heard at a DCC meeting in January, 2012 with a possible site walk also in January.

**Site Review:** Crystal Realty Assoc. Inc. Ralph Valentine, The Valentine Group, James Gove, Gove Environmental Services, Karl Dubay, The Dubay Group Inc.

23 Crystal Ave. Tax Map/Lot 32/30 (Property owner James Derderian)

The Property is 5 and 1/2 acres. An industrial building is presently on the site along with some pavement, gravel, an old foundation, drainage with culverts that lead to Hood Pond and 2 wetland areas. The owner would like to change the use from commercial industrial to a mixed use of retail shops/professional services and a restaurant. The retail shops would be located along the rear and the restaurant would be a standalone building in the front. A paved area would surround the back of the building allowing access to the rear doors of the shops and fire access. The building would be 50 feet from the wetland after a stabilized vegetated slope is put in. A variance would be required since there is a setback requirement of 75 ft. over 1 acre. There is erosion in the left front corner of the property. A small area in the right front corner of the property which is owned by St. Thomas Aquinas Church will be retained for church parking.

There are two current issues on the site.

1. Oriental Bittersweet that has encroached into the wetlands as well as the 75 foot buffer.
2. Fill Piles and road runoff that is going into the area untreated.

The impact to the wetlands is 9,524 sq. feet to wetland #1 and 434 sq. feet to wetland #2. The total wetland impact is 9,958 sq. feet.

DCC will do a site walk December 17, 2011 at 9:00 am. A Dredge and Fill application for the site is in the works. It will probably be submitted to DES in January 2012, possibly making it available to be on the DCC agenda in February 2012.

**Report on Coverts:**

Paula Frank, former chair and current member of Go Green did a presentation on the coverts program sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension that she attended in September 2011. Some of the things covered were Forest Ecology, Conservation Biology, taking action for wildlife, Grassland Management and Silviculture (tending and caring of trees). She related some of the things she learned to Broadview Farm and what a valuable resource BF is. She also showed pictures of the recent beaver dam destruction that caused flooding at Jenney Dickey Brook.

#### **Zoning Amendment:**

James Degnan gave a report on the zoning amendment meeting with the Derry Planning Board, Beverly Ferrante and Margie Ives attended the PB meeting also. There was discussion on vernal pools and the clarity of their definition.

A decision was made to focus on the parking lot setbacks. According to James Degnan, Town Administrator, John Anderson mentioned that a 75 foot setback is a lot for some of the smaller undeveloped areas. He would like DCC to investigate other towns of similar size and development and come back to PB with a plan for the next hearing on February 22, 2012. DCC will look into Salem, Londonderry, Portsmouth and Concord etc. DCC will also seek advice on porous pavement through UNH Cooperative Ext.

#### **Conservation Activities update:**

Cole Marsh – The pond is very high. Some of the trail is underwater. A couple of the bridges need maintenance. One of the bridges has a tree leaning on it.

Scout Jonathan Niebla from troop #405 is working on a trail restoration project for the spring of 2012.

Low Properties – Margie and Dennis visited the Low Properties with Rockingham County Forester Fred Borman. Fred is working on the remediation program on the Low Property. When we got the grant from NRCS it was to be followed up with another grant to do remediation. The second grant will be much smaller. Brooke Smart and Fred Borman are now still working on that grant. There is extensive ATV damage. According to the conditions of the grant, this damage may have to be repaired. Grading and re-seeding would be stage one. Chair suggested sending another letter to the ATV users after the remediation.

#### **Other Business:**

Go Green calendar of activities – events for 2012 include:

- Derry fest.
- Recycling education in the schools.
- Town wide clean ups.
- Nature walks in the spring.
- This year a snowshoeing and cross country skiing event has been added to the calendar for February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at Broadview Farm.

Judy Follo and Paula Frank are working on plans for a Project Learning Tree Workshop for early education to take place in March or April. They also plan to continue with the Summer Outdoor Learning Experience Program with the boys and girls club.

**Non-public:** none

There will not be any other DCC meetings in December, 2011.

The next DCC meeting will be held January 9, 2012.

A motion was made to adjourn by Beverly Ferrante and the motion was seconded by Paul Doolittle. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Ruth Robinson/Clerk