



**City of Nashua**  
**Conservation Commission**  
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**NASHUA CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**September 13, 2022**

**A. Call to order**

A special meeting of the Nashua Conservation Commission was called to order on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM, 229 Main Street, City Hall in Room 208, and via Zoom virtual meeting.

**B. Roll call**

Members present:

- Sherry Dutzy, Chair
- Jed Crook, Clerk
- Megan Cook, Treasurer
- Brandon Pierotti
- Maureen Bourque
- Carol Sarno
- Gloria McCarthy, Alt.
- Dick Widhu, Alt.

Also in Attendance:

- Matt Sullivan, Community Dev. Dir.
- Deb Chisholm, Waterways Manager
- Sam Durfee, Planning Manager

Chairman Dutzy said that Commissioner Porter has resigned from the Commission.

**C. Approval of minutes**

August 9, 2022

**MOTION** by Commissioner Cook to approve the minutes, as amended

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Sarno

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

**D. Old Business**

None

**E. New Business**

None

**F. NCC Correspondence & Communications**

None

**G. Commissioners Discussion**

**1. NRI Co-Occurrence Discussion**

Mr. Sullivan said the intent of this discussion is to give a priority ranking to all nine of the natural resource categories in the scoresheet that was provided to them. This will be the basis for co-occurrence mapping the NRPC will be doing for the Natural Resource Inventory. This will be used as the basis for future conservation and preservation efforts.

The Commission held a detailed discussion of the highest and lowest priorities, and agreed on the following ranking:

Prime Farmland and Soils: 1

Steep Slopes: 1

Agricultural Lands: 2

Aquifers: 2

Wetlands: 3

Wildlife Habitat: 3

Forested Lands: 3

Water Quality: 3

Floodplains: 3

Mr. Sullivan said he would provide the information to the NRPC, who would provide them with a draft of the map.

## **2. Maintenance Dates for Yudicky Park**

Chairman Dutzy led discussion in regards to organizing a clean-up crew to remove the BMX Park in Terrell Conservation Area. The Commission agreed to schedule for October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **3. Joyce Park Wildlife Sanctuary Stewardship Plan**

Mr. Sullivan requested feedback from the Commission on the draft, with the expectation that this would be voted on at the October meeting for referral to the Board of Aldermen.

Discussion of the language contained within the draft ensued. The Commission discussed at length as to whether there was a conservation easement in place, permissions regarding fishing and boating, and the specific geographic boundaries.

Chairman Dutzy said she received a quote from a painter for maintenance on the bench.

Mr. Sullivan asked if it needs to be done this year. A brief discussion regarding bench maintenance ensued.

## **4. Hudson Forest Management Plan**

Chairman Dutzy led a detailed discussion in regards to the Hudson Forest Management Plan, as well as what aspects and scope of work the Commission would like to see in a Nashua management plan. The Commission discussed silviculture, wildlife habitat, protection of non-forest aspects, improvement of recreational areas, invasive species, specific areas of focus, and identification of hazard trees.

Chairman Dutzy said they could either request a scope of work and critique it, or draft a document with their findings. Commissioner Sarno volunteered to provide feedback.

## **5. Beaver Management Policy**

Mr. Sullivan said there is no update.

## **6. Pennichuck Solar Farm Planting Update**

Mr. Sullivan said both of the cleared areas have been planted. However, they planted in drought conditions, so diligence is required. The Commission considered flying a drone over the

Pennichuck property in a year to see how the site has progressed. A site walk-through was also considered.

#### **7. McCarthy Middle School**

Commissioner Sarno led a discussion in regards to hibernaculum construction. Mr. Sullivan said he can follow-up with Alderman Dowd.

#### **8. Buckmeadow Conservation Area**

The Commission held a detailed discussion in regards to various activities, including a disappeared rock delivery and private signage. Commissioner Sarno provided an update on invasive management, and said tarps were needed to smother Japanese Knotweed. Phragmites is also an issue.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Widhu to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$150.00, for the purpose of Japanese Knotweed management

**SECONDED** by Commissioner McCarthy

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

#### **9. Vernal Pool Buffer**

Commissioner Cook led a discussion in regards to a potential revision of the vernal pool buffer in the Land Use Code. She offered to share resources with the rest of the Commission so they can come to an agreement as to what that revision should look like.

After discussion the Commission decided that the vernal pool buffer should be 75-ft, to match the Prime wetland buffer.

Mr. Sullivan said this was reasonable and there is data to support going beyond that. This is also a good opportunity to bundle with the septic setback amendment proposed. He is willing to discuss this with Ald. Dowd.

#### **10. Previously Approved Projects**

- L Spindlewick Drive: Commissioner Bourque said the lot density has been reduced, which allows for more greenspace and wetland buffer. Mr. Sullivan asked the

Commission to include members of Planning staff when they are in correspondence with applicants.

#### **11. Roby Park**

Commissioner Sarno said this application will be coming before the Commission at the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. They have received correspondence from members of the community, which will be included in the record.

Mr. Sullivan said the primary area of concern is the rechanneling of the stream and the streambed impact. The direct wetland impacts will most likely be addressed through a restoration plan. The application before the Commission in October is likely to be a request for the full build of the disc golf course, heavily modified based on the impacts and need for restoration. Public Works has been working closely with Wetland Scientist Brendan Quigley from Gove Environmental and the NHDES to develop a restoration plan. The intent is still to build a disc golf course.

#### **12. Temple Street Asphalt Plant**

Mr. Sullivan provided a brief overview of the environmental assessment soon to be performed for this project. He explained the Planning Board review process and the zoning criteria. The goal is to have an informed opinion before the Board collects public input.

#### **H. Adjournment**

**MOTION** to adjourn by Commissioner Cook at 8:46 PM

**SECONDED** by Commissioner Bourque

**MOTION CARRIED 6-0**

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