

CONCORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 37 Green St

Attendees: Vice-Chair Jeff Lewis, Alternate Kevin Porter, Katherine Healy, Tracey Lesser, Alternate Jim Owers and Councilor Michele Horne

Absent: Rick Chormann, Mark Coen and Chair Kristine Tardiff

Staff: Kearsten O'Brien, Senior Planner
Krista Tremblay, Administrative Technician III
Beth Fenstermacher, Director of Special Projects

Public: Bruce Currie (428 Josiah Bartlett Rd, Concord)
Steve & Abby Conway (11 Fernwood Place, Bow)
Rene & Beth Marro (76 Currier Rd, Concord)
Keith Martel (118 Palmer Rd, Candia)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Lewis at 7:00 p.m.

2. Minutes – Approve meeting minutes from meeting on January 14, 2026

Alternate Member Owers moved, Alternate Member Porter seconded, to approve the January 14, 2025 with one notation of Alternate. All in favor. The motion passed.

3. New Business

a. Alternate Member Intent- Bruce Currie

Vice-Chair Lewis stated Mr. Currie has submitted a request to the City Manager for possible appointment to the Conservation Commission. Vice-Chair Lewis noted the protocol is for the City Manager to meet with Mr. Currie as a nominee to City Council. Vice-Chair Lewis stated before the City Manager does that he asks the Conservation Commission to meet with prospective members.

Mr. Currie read his resume to the Conservation Commission.

Councilor Horne asked if Mr. Currie has read through the previous agendas or seen what the Conservation Commission discusses.

Mr. Currie stated he has read two or three agendas.

Vice-Chair Lewis stated the City Manager is looking for the Conservation Commission thoughts on the applicant.

On a motion made by Alternate Member Owers, seconded by Member Porter, the Commission voted to recommend Mr. Currie to the City Manager as an alternate member to the Conservation Commission. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Permit by Notification- 48 Currier Road

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Mr. Martel stated he is representing Liberty Woods for plans by permit notification for a future subdivision and minor subdivision on Currier Rd to access a single-family house lot. There are two forested wetland pockets that are connected to a road side ditch and they need a wetland permit to access it.

Ms. O'Brien clarified that this is a permit by notification. For any wetland buffer impacts will trigger them to come back to Conservation Commission with the subdivision and conditional use permit application. This is for what they are doing to the driveway.

Vice-Chair Lewis asked if there are any other wetland impacts to the property.

Mr. Martel responded no there are no other wetland impacts.

Vice-Chair Lewis stated this is pretty straight forward.

Mr. Martel noted they will be preparing storm water treatment.

Vice-Chair Lewis stated he has no concerns.

Ms. O'Brien noted they will need to sign the permit application.

Vice-Chair Lewis stated he will need a motion that the Conservation Commission has no concerns with this application and authorizes the Vice-Chair to sign the permit application.

On a motion made by Alternate Member Owers, seconded by Member Healy, the Commission noted they have no concerns with this application and authorizes the Vice-Chair to sign the permit application. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

- c. Request from René Marro to close and reroute WEFT portion adjacent to 76 Currier Rd
Rene Marro and Beth Marro are present to discuss ongoing issues (drugs, sex, dogs, defecation, snowmobiles, lack of privacy and lack of prompt police response) at the adjacent property owned by the City of Concord.

Vice-Chair Lewis stated the Conservation Commission has a procedure for discontinuance of a trail and the Trail Subcommittee that would be tasked with looking at that.

Alternate Member Owers asked if he has a shared driveway.

Mr. Marro responded yes, he shares with his neighbor.

Alternate Member Owers stated he was there this past Sunday and could not see his house from the parking lot.

Mr. Marro stated you cannot see the house from the parking lot.

Alternate Member Owers asked if they could put up a fence would that stop this.

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Mr. Marro stated he does not feel a fence will solve the noise problem or dogs coming into their yard.

Vice-Chair Lewis noted there are a lot of trails in Concord that go right by peoples houses. Vice-Chair Lewis stated there is limited things the Conservation Commission can do and it would have to go to a public hearing. The public would need to weigh in on it. Vice-Chair Lewis is in favor of having the Trails Subcommittee take a look at this and see what can be done with the trail. Vice-Chair Lewis noted there is a process for closing a trail that the Trails Subcommittee and Conservation Commission needs to follow.

Ms. O'Brien reported she had asked NH Fish and Game if the Conservation Commission can close off some sections of the trail. Fish and Game responded it is a safety issue because once established as a snowmobile trail you cannot close it off.

Mr. Marro asked staff to look into park hours and if the trail can be closed.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated they will confirm with the city solicitor.

d. Easement Monitoring Reports Review

Ms. O'Brien stated she took the Trail Ranger reports and noted debris and clean up that would be in violation of the conservation easement.

Member Healy asked if these need a letter from the Conservation Commission.

Ms. O'Brien stated letters with violations are done and will go out soon.

4. Reports

a. Trails Subcommittee – Jeff Lewis

Vice-Chair Lewis stated Trails Subcommittee discussed the 2025 annual report to submit to the Conservation Commission and a list of goals for 2026. They are working on the trail guide updates.

b. Forestry

Vice-Chair Lewis noted the forestry report was email out to the Conservation Commission.

c. Tree Subcommittee update – Rick Chormann

Member Chormann was not present at the meeting.

d. Local River Advisory Committees

There was nothing discussed on this agenda item.

e. New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

There was nothing discussed on this agenda item.

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f. City Open Space and Easements
There was nothing discussed on this agenda item.

g. City Council/Planning Board
There was nothing discussed on this agenda item.

5. Old Business

a. Invasive Species continued discussion- Kevin Porter
Alternate Member Porter talked to NE Forestry Foundation and they would not be able to enter in for this year. Alternate Member Porter asked for the contracted forester for the city can make note of invasive species on city land.

Vice-Chair Lewis asked if want to have as a place holder on the agenda for next year.

Alternate Member Porter suggested to keep on agenda next month to discuss with the contracted city forester.

b. New trail follow-up discussion (Richards Forest Trail, West End Farm Trail, northerly bypass, 16-foot easement trail follow-up discussion) Status of each, any outstanding items remaining to be done for the ones that are completed, permit status, installation of signage, etc.
Ms. O'Brien stated the Richards Trail is done. The northerly bypass is completed. There was no update on the West End Farm Trail.

Ms. Fenstermacher suggested to keep the Richards on the agenda as they are waiting on the deed.

6. Non-Public RSA 91-A:3 II (d)

None.

7. Staff updates on items

- Ms. O'Brien stated the city tax collector asked if the Conservation Commission would have interest in 45 Auburn St for tax deed purposes.

Alternate Member Owers stated he does not feel it has any conservation value.

Vice-Chair Lewis agreed and the answer is no.

Alternate Member Owers moved, seconded by Member Healy, the Conservation Commission voted they have no interest in taking 45 Auburn St as a conservation property. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

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- Ms. O'Brien stated Mr. Cross's property asked if the Conservation Commission would install a fence along the encroachment area because it is still being used. Mr. Klemarczyk has provided a quote to install the fence.

Ms. Fenstermacher provided history on the property. This gentleman has been mowing a portion of the city's property. There was a mowing agreement, COVID hit and it was never signed by the gentleman. A few years ago, it was discussed to mark the property boundary and a fence. Nothing was followed through and this is the next step as he continues to mow the property.

Vice-Chair asked if the request is for the city to install a fence.

Member Healy if they will not move forward with the mowing agreement.

Ms. Fenstermacher stated he continues to mow beyond the agreed area into wetlands.

Vice-Chair Lewis stated there is no guarantee this will solve the issue.

Member Lesser asked if they can ask for him to come discuss at a Conservation Commission meeting.

- Ms. O'Brien noted there is a regular member position for the Conservation Commission and asked if Alternate Member Porter would like to become a full member.

Ms. Fenstermacher suggested Alternate Member Porter send a letter to the City Manager to request to become a full member.

- Ms. O'Brien stated she needs a motion to spend up to a suggested dollar amount for a title search for the Bois De Brodeur property.

Alternate Member Owers asked how much do they want to spend.

Vice-Chair Lewis responded \$500.

Ms. O'Brien noted for the motion the tax map and lot is 02z lot 7.

Member Lesser moved, seconded by Member Healy, the Conservation Commission voted to do a title search up to \$500.00 for tax, map and lot 02z lot 7. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

This agenda item was discussed last month.

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9. Adjourn

Adjournment

Member Lesser moved, seconded by Member Healy, to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. All in favor.
Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Tremblay

Krista Tremblay

Administrative Technician III