



TOWN OF  
**NEWMARKET**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Conservation Commission

March 9, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

### AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephen Jones, UNH, Tracking Sources of Fecal Contamination in the Lamprey River Watershed: 2021-2023
5. Acceptance of Minutes, February 9, 2023
6. Finance Report
7. NH Waste Management Council – Cris Blackstone
8. Committee/Board Reports
  - Planning Board and Town Planner
  - Riverfront Advisory Committee/Schanda Park
  - Town Council
  - Energy and Environment Committee
  - Newmarket 300<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee
9. Initiatives
  - Pollinator Pathways – Melissa Sharples
  - Connect to Protect – Tom Jones
  - Stream and Wildlife Crossing Enhancement Project – Colin Lawson
10. Conservation Easement Monitoring
11. Land Stewardship
  - Sliding Rock Recreation and Conservation Area – LRAC grant
  - Wiggin Farm – kiosk design; bridge boardwalk; April work day
  - Dearborn – Driveway ROW easement
12. Adjourn



TOWN OF  
**NEWMARKET**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Conservation Commission**

February 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Ellen Snyder (Chair), Melissa Sharples (Vice-Chair), David Bell, Jeffrey Goldknopf (Planning Board Rep.), Tom Jones (Alternate), Sam Kenney, and Colin Lawson (Alternate)

**Members Absent:** Cris Blackstone, Julianna Tyson, and Colin White (Town Council Rep- *ex officio*)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. [time on DCAT 2:57]

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Roll Call**

The Chair appointed **Colin Lawson** and **Tom Jones** as voting members this evening.

**3. Public Comment**

Paul Marino, 28 Dame Road, came forward to introduce himself to the members. He has met several members before and has a keen interest in trees, forests, and invasive pests/species. He just moved to Newmarket and is studying non-fiction at UNH and has a background in journalism. Stella McShera, 10 Packers Falls Road, introduced herself. She, too, has just moved to Town and bought the Mongeon Farm House (C.1860). She is working on an M.S. in Degrowth which is the study of the intersection of ecology, economy and equality and is very interested in the Conservation Commission and the work of other committees in Town. She is interested in attending other meetings in the Town as well.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**January 12, 2023** [time on DCAT 5:59]

The Chair made some editorial changes to page 5.

**Action**

**Motion:** **David Bell** moved to approve the amended draft minutes of 1/12//2023.

1 **Second:** Melissa Sharples  
 2 **Discussion:** none  
 3 **Vote:** Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

4  
 5 **5. Finance Report**

[time on DCAT 7:39]

6 The Chair reported that the current balance in the Conservation Fund is \$130,805.40. A  
 7 check was issued as a deposit for one half of the price of the new Piscassic River  
 8 Loiselle sign. The current balance in the General Fund is \$1,823.43.

9  
 10 **6. Committee/Board Reports**

[time on DCAT 8:35]

11 **Planning Board:** Jeff Goldknopf had nothing new to report from the Planning Board.

12 **Town Planner:** Ellen reported about the first meeting of 'Connect to Protect'. The team  
 13 representing Newmarket includes **Ellen Snyder, Tom Jones, and Bart**. The goal of  
 14 'Connect to Protect' is to present workshops and opportunities tailored for assistance to  
 15 municipal boards and conservation organizations. This first meeting was a  
 16 brainstorming session to help work toward our interests in connectivity while preserving  
 17 lands in the Town and, in particular, our desire to connect with other groups to learn and  
 18 benefit from their efforts. It appears that they could help us upgrade our trail maps. She  
 19 also mentioned that the ConCom would like to connect with our partners like SELT. We  
 20 have reached out to SELT to continue conversations about what they are planning for  
 21 this area and ways we might be more collaborative. **Tom** mentioned that the  
 22 coordinators were very interested in the wetland corridors and ways to improve  
 23 saltmarsh resiliency and mitigation. The Chair will keep everyone posted as the  
 24 discussions progress. [New Hampshire Coastal Watershed Conservation Plan - Connect  
 25 to Protect \(connect-protect.org\)](#)

26 **Riverfront Advisory/ Schanda Park:** Sam Kenney reported this evening that the next  
 27 meeting will be held on February 13, at 4 PM and will be a joint meeting of the RFAC  
 28 and Conservation Commission members with the Strafford Regional Planning  
 29 Commission to discuss coastal resiliency and grant opportunities. It will be taped for  
 30 DCAT. **Ellen** reported on the recent oil spill of 200 gallons from a private home off Bay  
 31 Road that leaked into the Lamprey below the dam. See **Addendum #1** at the end of the  
 32 minutes for details. The Recreation Department has sent an application to secure the  
 33 dates for the Annual Arts-in-the Park concerts at Schanda Park for summer 2023. The  
 34 concerts will begin on Tuesday, June 27. Further information on the concert series may  
 35 be found at [Arts in the Park Concert Series | Newmarket Recreation Department](#).

36  
 37 **Action**

38 **Motion:** Sam Kenney moved to approve the use of Schanda Park for the  
 39 Newmarket Recreation Department's annual 'Arts-in-the-Park' concert series for the  
 40 summer of 2023.

41 **Second:** Melissa Sharples

42 **Discussion:** None

43 **Vote:** Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

44  
 45 **Town Council:** Colin White is absent this evening. She also mentioned that **Colin** has  
 46 notified her that regrettably he has a conflict with the ConCom meeting time and has

1 asked the TC Chair to appoint another member to serve in his place.

2 **Energy and Environment Advisory Committee: Julianna Tyson** is absent this  
3 evening.

4  
5 **7. Conservation Easement Monitoring** [time on DCAT 16:46]

6 **Melissa** and **Jeff** completed the monitoring of the New Roots Farm and **Melissa** is  
7 finishing the report. **Jeff** was concerned about a few of the markers that were gone and  
8 should be replaced. The ConCom will review the report when available. He will touch  
9 base with Jeff Cantera, the owner, and discuss any possible changes with him. The  
10 Chair understands that he has changed the name of the farm.

11  
12 **8. Land Stewardship/Conservation** [time on DCAT 20:08]

13 **Sliding Rock Recreation and Conservation Area – LRAC Grant:** **Ellen** reported on  
14 one of the components of the LRAC grant. She visited the ¼ mile trail with Lew Shelley  
15 who is a trails consultant. He answered her basic questions and he provided a best  
16 estimate for a completed accessibility trail which could cost approximately \$40,000.  
17 **Sam** will do research about the cost of any extra permitting costs. The Chair thinks that  
18 we need to speak with Rick Malasky about the current cul-du-sac parking. Several  
19 parking spots would need to be dedicated to accessible handicapped parking. It was  
20 decided to go out there with Rick during a peak summer time and **Colin Lawson** was  
21 enthusiastic about going on the site walk as well. **Ellen** mentioned the new accessible  
22 trail completed recently at Manchester Cedar Swamp Preserve by the Nature  
23 Conservancy – it is truly beautiful. [Manchester Cedar Swamp Preserve | The Nature](#)  
24 [Conservancy in NH](#). The members will continue to discuss the possibility of an  
25 accessible trail. **Ellen** is reaching out to the sign maker we often use to get a quote on  
26 the new kiosk signage which is another part of the grant from LRAC.

27 **Wiggin Farm – 2023: kiosk bridge, sign posts, invasives:** **Sam** walked out with Vic  
28 Bilodeau to assess the bridge. They pushed on the rails and posts, but more inspection  
29 will be necessary after spring melt. They felt that the bridge needed to be extended  
30 about 15' on the parking lot side and about 40' on the other end. They looked at any  
31 loose boards which might need to be replaced. Both **Melissa** and **Jeff** mentioned using  
32 some anti-slip materials on the boards and **Sam** and Vic agreed. Lumber is certainly not  
33 cheap, so they recommend focusing on the bridge extension and just replacing boards  
34 on the bridge as necessary. They looked at the kiosk. The posts are 'done' after they  
35 snapped in the storm. The roof is still okay and the plywood might be salvageable. **Ellen**  
36 asked **Sam** to check on any permitting costs for doing the extensions. **Ellen** will contact  
37 Kevin Martin about a new kiosk. Another issue at Wiggin Farm is the entrance sign.  
38 The posts securing the sign have heaved and need to be re-set. The sign is dirty and  
39 needs to be cleaned and/or repainted. **Melissa** checked on the cost for that work and it  
40 would be \$875.00. **Sam** would like to try a little vinegar and a tooth brush. The signage  
41 on the kiosk is outdated and we need new panels. **Ellen** would like to schedule an  
42 invasive removal work day around Earth Day (April 22). A date will be chosen at a later  
43 meeting.

44 **Dearborn – Driveway ROW Easement:** **Ellen** just received several samples of ROW  
45 easement language from Fish & Game. She will be putting together a draft for the deed  
46 and will be running that by Bart and F&G for their comments. She plans to bring this

1 back to the ConCom, the abutters, and then ask the Town Attorney to review the deed  
2 changes.

3 **SELT's Piscassic Greenway Management Plan:** SELT is just beginning a review of  
4 the existing management plan for the Greenway and consider updates. The plan will  
5 include forestry, wildlife, and recreation. The committee has representatives from  
6 Newfields, Fish & Game, and Newmarket. Drew Kiefaber (long-time member and Chair  
7 of the ConCom) will be the representative from Newmarket. Due to a staff vacancy at  
8 SELT, **Ellen** has been hired to facilitate the meetings. Anyone from Newmarket with  
9 comments may send those to Drew at ([drew.kiefaber@gmail.com](mailto:drew.kiefaber@gmail.com)) or we could invite  
10 Drew to attend a ConCom meeting. The meetings will begin this month and continue  
11 for approximately six months.

12 **UNH Extension Summer Stewardship Intern Applications:** When **Ellen** worked for  
13 Durham, she applied for UNH Extension Summer Interns. She contacted Ann Tappan  
14 from the Lee Conservation Commission to collaborate on a request. She attached a  
15 copy of the application and description of projects to the member's packet. She was  
16 thinking of asking for an Intern for one week (hours to be determined). It is necessary  
17 for the interns to be accompanied at all times and the interns are funded by UNH.

18

19 **Action**

20 **Motion:** **Colin Lawson** made a motion to submit the proposal for the UNH  
21 Extension Summer Stewardship Interns.

22 **Second:** **Tom Jones**

23 **Discussion:** None

24 **Vote:** **Approved Unanimously 7-0-0**

25

26 The draft application is attached as **Addendum #2** to these minutes.

27

28 **9. Adjourn**

[time on DCAT 53:21]

29

**Action**

30 **Motion:** **Tom Jones** moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM.

31 **Second:** **Melissa Sharples**

32 **Discussion:** None

33 **Vote:** **Approved Unanimously 7-0-0**

34

35

36 Respectfully submitted,

37

38 Sue Frick, Recording Secretary

39

40

41 **DCAT:**

42

43 [https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/XSekkdEeRsk0JHQVHAvKJVka7\\_5VjxKP/videos](https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/XSekkdEeRsk0JHQVHAvKJVka7_5VjxKP/videos)

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**ADDENDUM #1**



TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH  
**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Oil Spill in Lamprey River**

*Approximately 200 gallons of home heating fuel leaked into the river in the area of Bay Road.*

At approximately 11AM on February 7, a call came into Newmarket dispatch of oil in the Lamprey River near Heron Point. It was later determined that the source of the oil was a private heating oil tank at a residence on Bay Rd. This oil entered the Town’s drain system in the area of the Bay Road parking lot and went into the river. It is estimated to be approximately 200 gallons of No. 2 oil in the river.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) was immediately notified, and their Emergency Response Team is now working with Newmarket Fire and Rescue to contain it and determine next steps. NHDES is now the agency in charge of the incident.

We will provide additional information when available.

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1  
2 **ADDENDUM #2 (pages 6 and 7)**

3  
4 **PROPOSAL – FOR DISCUSSION AT LEE AND NEWMARKET CC MEETINGS**

5  
6 Date: February 2023

7  
8 To: Malin Clyde, UNHCE

9 From: Ellen Snyder, Newmarket Conservation Commission  
10 Anne Tappan, Lee Conservation Commission

11 Re: Seacoast Stewardship Summer Interns – Proposal from Towns of Lee and  
12 Newmarket

13  
14 **Sponsoring Organizations**

15 Newmarket Conservation Commission

16 186 Main St, Newmarket, NH 03857

17 c/o Ellen Snyder, [ellensnyder1@gmail.com](mailto:ellensnyder1@gmail.com), 603-583-0039

18  
19 Lee Conservation Commission

20 Lee Town Office, 249 Calef Highway, Lee, NH 03861

21 c/o Anne Tappan, [Anne.Tappan@comcast.net](mailto:Anne.Tappan@comcast.net)

22  
23 **Description**

24 The Intern(s) will assist the Newmarket and Lee Conservation Commissions with  
25 stewardship projects on our respective Town conservation lands and trails. We  
26 anticipate three days in Newmarket and two days in Lee. The following projects are  
27 anticipated, although may be adjusted if site conditions warrant:

28  
29 *Newmarket – Wiggin Farm Conservation Area*

- 30 • Hand pull invasive yellow rattle from the meadow
- 31 • Hand cut and pull invasive bittersweet vines from old field and along stone wall
- 32 • Re-set two interpretive signposts and dig out three unneeded posts in the meadow

33  
34 *Newmarket -- Dearborn Conservation Area*

- 35 • Assist with the creation of a baseline documentation report for the property
- 36 • Add conservation area signs along the boundaries

37  
38 *Newmarket -- Heron Point Sanctuary*

- 39 • Bench and brush out trails
- 40 • Add gravel to trails as needed
- 41 • Invasive plant removal

42  
43 *Lee*

44 The Lee Conservation Commission has a suite of properties at which they are working  
45 on invasive plant control using mechanical methods: hand pulling, cutting, digging,  
46 smothering. In June, we anticipate working at the following conservation areas:

- 1  
2 • Maud Jones Memorial Forest: hand pull or smother (buckthorn baggies) glossy  
3 buckthorn  
4  
5 • Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary: cut and pull Japanese knotweed along Laynes Brook  
6  
7 • Little River Park: hand pull and dig invasive plants, including bittersweet, buckthorn,  
8 and barberry  
9

### 10 **Location**

11 Town Conservation Areas in Lee and Newmarket. Outdoors.  
12

### 13 **Timeframe**

14 One week, preferably in mid-June  
15

### 16 **Training and Supervision.**

17 Conservation Commission members (Ellen Snyder-Newmarket and Anne Tappan-Lee,  
18 or other members with similar experience) will work together with the interns on all  
19 projects during week and train them in all skills needed for these projects. Interns will  
20 need their own transportation.  
21

22 Interns will learn:

- 23 • How to identify and control invasive plants using various mechanical/hand tools  
24 • Identification of some New Hampshire native plant species and plant communities  
25 • How to improve and maintain trails  
26 • About stewardship issues such as dogs, signage, rogue trails, wetland crossings,  
27 sustainability, land  
28 management  
29 • About NH Conservation Commissions