



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Conservation Commission

June 8, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Guest Speaker: Doug Cygan, NH Invasive Species Coordinator
Identifying and Managing Invasive Japanese Knotweed
5. Approve Meeting Minutes: April 13, 2023 and May 11, 2023
6. Financial Summary
7. SELT's Piscassic Greenway Management Plan Update – Drew Kiefaber
8. Conservation Commission Operating Guidelines - adopt
9. Committee/Board Reports
 - Town Council
 - Planning Board
 - Riverfront Advisory Committee/Schanda Park
 - Other Committee Reports
10. Initiatives
 - Pathways for People and Nature
 - Stream and Wildlife Crossings
 - Pollinator Pathways
11. Land Stewardship
 - Sliding Rock Recreation and Conservation Area: LRAC grant
 - Piscassic River–Loiselle: entrance sign
 - Wiggin Farm: UNH interns, kiosk
 - Dearborn: Driveway ROW easement
12. Adjourn



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Conservation Commission

April 13, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Colin White (Town Council Rep- *ex officio*)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

[time on DCAT 3:27]

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

3. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

Action

Motion: Sam Kenney moved to nominate **Ellen Snyder as Chair and Melissa Sharples as Vice-Chair** for 2023-2024.

Second: Cris Blackstone

Discussion: none

Vote: **Approved 7-0-0**

4. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

5. Guest Speaker

We had technical difficulties, so the Chair moved ahead in the agenda without objection.

6. Acceptance of Minutes, March 9, 2023

[time on DCAT 7:18]

The Chair had one correction to page 5.

Action

Motion: **Melissa Sharples** moved to approve the amended Draft Minutes for March 9, 2023.

Second: **Julianna Tyson**

Discussion: none

Vote: **Approved 6-0-1 (Cris Blackstone abstained).**

7. Financial Summary

[time on DCAT 8:45]

The Chair reported that the Conservation Fund has a current balance of \$131,557.34 and there is no change in the Schanda Park Fund. Income for March included \$239.58 interest and a deposit from LCHIP of \$600.00 for the monitoring of the Piscassic River Loiselle easement. We have an approval for \$500.00 for Lew Shelley of Snowhawk LLC for the assessment of the possibility of accessible trails at Sliding Rock. We also have the funding approved for the Wiggin Farm footbridge repairs. The General Fund currently has a balance of \$1,560.58.

8. Committee/Board Reports

[time on DCAT 10:08]

Planning Board and Town Planner: **Jeff** reported on the most recent meeting of the Planning Board where the PB discussed at length potential changes to the Historical Overlay District. The PB also approved a two year extension to Eric DeWitt for the property at 81 Exeter Road while he continues to seek a funding partner. He will continue to work on this approved landscape plan in the meantime.

Riverfront Advisory Committee/Schanda Park: **Sam** reported that the committee has met twice since our last meeting. They will be submitting two grants: 1) Coastal Resilience Grant and 2) Clean Water SRF1 through NHDES. The Committee members are busy speaking with people about the upcoming design charrette and trying to spread the word and get people interested in participating. The next meeting will be on May 8 and there are plans for a site walk at 3:00 PM south of Creighton Street/off Colonial Drive to consider ways to connect with the River Walk. Dr. Stephen Jones (who was the guest speaker in March) will be going out to walk along Moonlight Brook with Lyndsay Butler and Sean Grieg...hunting for potential sample sites. Fish & Game has announced that the 2023 river herring fishing is prohibited. This includes both alewife and blueback herring. Any trap or weir must allow for total escape of herring. **Cris** mentioned that Herring Aid will return this spring when the river herring head back from the ocean to their birth places upstream to spawn the next generation. In 2022, over 77,000 fish came back to the Lamprey River. A date will be set soon – mid to late May - and everyone is welcome to come help move the fish up over the fish ladder.

Town Council: The Town Council still hasn't appointed a new representative to the ConCom. **Ellen** reported that the TC passed a new ordinance in February called "**Ordinance No. 2 - 2022/2023 - An Ordinance amending Chapter 2 of the code of the Town of Newmarket, NH; Naming of Public Land and Facilities and Placement of Memorials.**" This is important to the ConCom because we have a pending request for placing a "memorial" picnic bench at Wiggin Farm. The Town Manager must now

1 determine an application process and fee schedule. The naming of any Town properties
2 is the purview of the Town Council.

3
4 Energy and Environment Advisory Committee: **Julianna** reported that, at the last
5 meeting of EEAC, the committee members continued with their goal of preparing and
6 editing the different sections for their Master Plan proposal for the Planning Board. They
7 have completed three sections. They have held two public hearings on the Community
8 Power Coalition and they may be seen on DCAT for more further information.

9
10 Newmarket 300th Steering Committee: **Melissa** was unable to attend the last meeting,
11 but will attend the meeting next Wednesday. Right now the committee is looking at logo
12 and tag line ideas. They have established a commemorative book committee.
13 The Town has requested the Steering Committee form a 501(c)3 organization. They will
14 be reviewing the committee by-laws next week.

15
16 The Chair wanted to mention the 2nd Annual Backyard Bash on August 4, 2023. It will be
17 held from 5:00-8:00 PM. [The Backyard Bash 2023, Newmarket Rec, August 4 2023 | AllEvents.in](#). The ConCom could have a table set up at the Bash. **Cris** suggested that
18 we might share a table with LRAC (they are planning a table of information). The Chair
19 will get in touch with them.

20
21
22 The Chair wanted to let everyone know that Toni Weinstein has organized another road
23 side cleaning effort in Town. Past years have been a great success. It has been
24 scheduled for Sunday, April 30. Toni will be distributing the special blue bags from DPW
25 downtown on Main Street. The bags must be out for pickup by the DPW on May 1.

26
27 *****

28 **5. Guest Speaker- Cody Crytzer** [time on DCAT 29:42 - 53:12]

29 With the technical issues resolved, the Chair introduced our guest speaker this
30 evening. Cody Crytzer, a Graduate Research Assistant in the Environmental Policy,
31 Planning, and Sustainability Lab (EPPS Lab) is pursuing a Master’s degree in the
32 Department of Natural Resources and the Environment (NREN) at the University of
33 New Hampshire with a concentration in environmental justice and access to nature. He
34 previously earned his B.S.F.(forestry) from UNH. His research is rooted in his passion
35 and desire for environmental justice, resiliency and economic benefits for communities
36 and their community members through the protection and sustainable use of natural
37 resources. Cody’s thesis title is: “Access to Nature in New Hampshire: Ensuring Equity
38 and Quality of Life for All”.

39
40 Cody plans to speak to us this evening about the *Nature Economy: Access to Nature in*
41 *New Hampshire*. His research objectives include: 1) understanding barriers and
42 opportunities of access to nature and its benefits for underserved communities, 2)
43 sharing information about barriers and opportunities with local, regional, and state
44 organizations in this sector, and 3) contributing to strategies to ensure that equity is at
45 the forefront of all environmental protection, justice efforts, and future policy
46 considerations. There is a clear relationship between access and health/wellbeing. One

1 major issue in NH is limited public access, from public bus systems to parking at trail
2 heads. Sidewalks are a clear issue as well. Bike lanes, sidewalks, and bike racks are all
3 possible solutions to help with access. Time may also be a barrier to access nature
4 especially if you are a single parent household and the parent is perhaps working two
5 jobs. Winter sports, although very popular, may be prohibitively expensive and
6 transportation is required. UNH Coop Ext. can help by completing a case study in
7 Newmarket. They can look at access issues in general, but, more specifically, at ADA
8 accessibility issues. While doing his case study in Rochester for his thesis, Cody
9 interviewed both Jenn Marsh, Assistant Director of Economic Development, and Lauren
10 Krans, Assistant Director of Recreation and Arena. They are both working on trying to
11 make some of their trails and recreation areas ADA accessible. He will put the Chair in
12 touch with them. Thank you so much Cody!!

13

14 *****

15 **9. Initiatives** [time on DCAT 53:21]

16 Pollinator Pathways – **Melissa Sharples** reported that we have received a grant of five
17 pollinator kits to distribute in Newmarket as we are a partner with them. The seed
18 packets will create gardens ~ 6’x 9’. The seed kits will be ready to pick up during the
19 last week in April. They are looking at places for the gardens. Some ideas include the
20 library, the Newmarket Community Church Thrift Store, the Recreation Department, the
21 High School Environmental Club or the Elementary School Garden Club, or the Police
22 Dept. **Cris** will speak to the Community Church about the Thrift Shop property and the
23 Recreation Dept. **Melissa** will check with the library, High School, Elementary School,
24 and the Police Dept. There are many places to think about. **Bart** zoomed into the
25 meeting. He had several ideas including the garden divider at Gerry Ave. and South
26 Main, the area behind the Town Hall where the hillside is eroding because of big rain
27 events, and Fillion Park near the dam and the Book Exchange.

28

29 “Connect to Protect” - **Tom, Ellen,** and **Bart** have been working with a collaborative
30 program for the New Hampshire Coastal Watershed Conservation Plan. Our team has
31 met with the technical assistance program twice. **Tom** introduced a draft document
32 which includes our goals. A copy is attached as Addendum page 1. We hope to use this
33 plan as a guide while we move ahead conserving and improving our lands in
34 Newmarket. The team is collaborating with Rick, Lyndsay, and Sean as well as Duane
35 Hyde from SELT. Pete Steckler, who co-authored the report called ‘New Hampshire’s
36 Coastal Watershed Conservation Plan in 2021’, is available to prepare and simplify any
37 maps we may need. The hope is to connect or reconnect to other communities by trails
38 and, ultimately, making Newmarket a healthier community. **Julianna** would like to see a
39 plan for more trails to include equestrian use.

40

41 **Colin** wanted to address the Boulder Trail. He, **Melissa,** and **Bart** went on a site walk
42 and found that the trail needs some work. **Colin** would like to suggest that the ConCom
43 communicate with the HOA and suggest a meeting. **Bart** stated that the trail is part of
44 the approved site plan which allows for public access.

45

1 Stream and Wildlife Crossing Enhancement Project - **Colin Lawson** reported about the
 2 data base survey of the locations and conditions of all culverts in the State. All the
 3 culverts in Newmarket are included in the survey. **Colin** is getting help from people at
 4 Trout Unlimited to pull the study up and print it out. He believes that the ConCom could
 5 look at potential sites to improve culverts (wet) and also dry passage for other wildlife.
 6 **Ellen** watched an informative webinar last week about Aquatic Restoration Mitigation
 7 (ARM) and restoration grant opportunities [Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund | NH](#)
 8 [Department of Environmental Services](#).

9
 10 A vote on the “Pathways for People and Nature” draft will wait until the next meeting in
 11 May.

12
 13 **10. Conservation Commission Operating Guidelines** [time on DCAT 1:34:30]

14 The Chair would like everyone to look at the draft Operating Guidelines for the ConCom
 15 which is in the meeting packet. The last set of by-laws was updated in 2007. **Ellen**
 16 contacted the NHACC and they said we are not required to have by-laws, but, since we
 17 have old ones, we can update them and call them Operating Guidelines and discuss
 18 them at the next meeting. All members agreed.

19
 20 **11. Conservation Easement Monitoring** [time on DCAT 1:36:57]

21 We currently monitor 7 easements (3 privately owned, 1 Town owned, 1 Audubon
 22 owned, 1 farm (Nostrum). **Melissa** and **Jeff** confirmed that monitoring of the Nostrum
 23 Farm has been completed. They had a brief discussion about 2 monuments, but it
 24 would not make a difference unless the land changes hands. **Jeff** would still like to have
 25 a conversation with the owner about his future plans and what he is doing with all the
 26 agricultural plastics he noticed. He will reach out to the owner. **Ellen** and **Jeff** will be
 27 visiting the Hilton Easement again to try and locate two monuments. They hope that
 28 Win Hilton will go along with them.

29
 30 **12. Land Stewardship** [time on DCAT 1:41:50]

31 Sliding Rock Recreation and Conservation Area: **Ellen** is still working on the Sliding
 32 Rock interpretive panel. She met with John Carmichael of the New Market Historical
 33 Society to find out exactly where the “sliding rock” is located. It is actually located on
 34 private land. The second kayak rack has been ordered.

35
 36 Piscassic River–Loiselle: **Melissa** reported that the sign is done and she will contact
 37 Rick at DPW to talk about getting installation help.

38
 39 Wiggin Farm: April 22, 2023: The volunteer work day (9:00-noon) at Wiggin is all set to
 40 go to extend the boardwalk. The Chair has borrowed a suitcase generator from SELT.
 41 She has contacted Rick about picking up the old kiosk. She is going to get (2) 4”x4”
 42 posts for the sign and moving both the new kiosk (design still in process) and sign to
 43 dryer places closer to the trail head. Newmarket Cares Day is scheduled for May 26
 44 from 8:30-11:30 AM and **Ellen** plans to take that group of students back out to Wiggin
 45 for more work.

46 The Chair was pleased to be notified that we were selected (along with the Lee

1 ConCom) for the Seacoast Stewardship Summer Interns. Newmarket and Lee
 2 Conservation Commissions will work with the three interns on projects on our respective
 3 Town conservation lands and trails. We anticipate three days in Newmarket and two
 4 days in Lee.

5
 6 Dearborn: The driveway ROW easement on the deed has been completed by the Town
 7 Attorney. It has been returned to Fish & Game and then it goes to the State Attorney
 8 General.

9
 10 **Bart**, Lyndsay Butler, Dave Evans, and Tim Cremen have been making programs for
 11 broadcast on DCAT. Has everyone seen the program called “Newmarket on the Streets
 12 – King Tide 2023”? **Bart** would like to suggest that we consider a series of films on our
 13 conservation properties and **Ellen** also suggested filming the work days. The films could
 14 be posted on the website. We would coordinate these efforts with Tim.

15
 16 **13. Adjourn**

[time on DCAT 1:56:55]

17
 18 **Action**

19 **Motion:** David Bell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM.

20 **Second:** Cris Blackstone

21 **Discussion:** None

22 **Vote:** Approved Unanimously

23
 24
 25 Respectfully submitted,

26
 27 Sue Frick, Recording Secretary

28
 29
 30
 31
 32 **DCAT:**

33 https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/XSekkdEeRsk0JHQVHAvKJVka7_5VjxKP/videos

1 Addendum page 1



Pathways for People and Nature



An Initiative of the Newmarket Conservation Commission
and the Department of Planning and Community Development

Our Goals

- **Protect Water Resources.** To protect our drinking water supplies, restore and maintain the natural shoreline along the Lamprey and Piscassic Rivers, and protect freshwater wetlands and salt marsh that provide many benefits to our community.
- **Maintain Habitat Corridors.** To protect critical natural habitats and places to maintain connectivity across the landscape for animals on land and in the water.
- **Create Trail Networks.** To create trail connectivity across town and between our neighboring communities to ensure safe recreating and commuting for pedestrians and cyclists.

Our Strategies to Build on Existing Partnerships and Conservation Efforts

Protect and Connect Priority Lands

- **Build on Newmarket's wealth of conservation lands.** Newmarket's extensive network of conserved lands protect farms, wetlands, forests, fields, wildlife habitats, drinking water, shorelands, and trails. These conservation areas and parks are managed by municipal, state, private, and nonprofit partners, including the Town of Newmarket, NH Fish and Game, The Nature Conservancy, Southeast Land Trust, and NH Audubon and include lands have been conserved through the subdivision open space process.
- **Identify high priority conservation opportunities.** The 2021 [NH Coastal Watershed Conservation Plan](#) provides guidance on where to focus conservation efforts to best protect clean drinking water, aquatic and upland habitats, connectivity for fish and wildlife, flood storage, farmland, and more.
- **Look for willing landowners.** The existing open spaces and the new coastal plan guide us in prioritizing our conservation efforts. We will look to interested landowners and conservation partners to enhance the protection of these critical areas.

Restore Waterways

- **Improve places where roads and streams cross.** Some culverts and bridges are getting old or are too small to allow water, sediment, and organic materials to easily flow downstream. Poor stream crossings can lead to flooding and road hazards and prevent the movement of fish, turtles, and other wildlife. Building on the success of the [Lubberland Creek culvert upgrade on Bay Road](#) and working with our Town Engineer, Public Works, and conservation partners, we seek to improve stream crossings and restore aquatic connectivity where needed throughout Newmarket.
- **Enhance Newmarket's waterfront.** We are evaluating ways to improve the Newmarket riverfront for people, restore a living shoreline to prevent further erosion, and restore the health of Moonlight Brook as it flows into the Lamprey River at Schanda Park in collaboration with the Riverfront Advisory Committee, UNH, our Town Engineer and Environmental Services Director.

Create Trail Networks

- **Create safe routes for hiking and biking.** Trails offer opportunities for recreation, nature observation, commuting, rejuvenation, and scenic enjoyment. Newmarket and neighboring communities host a variety of trails on conserved lands. As our local roads become busier and potentially less safe for pedestrians and cyclists, we seek to connect trails across town and beyond to offer safe passage for all.

We believe these goals and efforts will enrich our community, foster a healthy ecology, and advance a more economically sustainable Newmarket.

For more information contact Bart McDonough, Director of Planning and Community Development at bmcdonough@newmarketnh.gov or Ellen Snyder, Chair, Newmarket Conservation Commission at ellensnyder1@gmail.com



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Piscassic Greenway Management Advisory Committee
Summary of Recommendations to SELT
for the Management Plan Update
 May 30, 2023

The members of the Management Advisory Committee (MAC) for the Piscassic Greenway (PG) Management Plan update include: Yohann Hanley (SELT), Lauren Hill, (Town of Newfields), Alison Watts (Town of Newfields), Drew Kiefaber (Town of Newmarket), Patrick Tate (NH Fish and Game), Ellen Snyder (Ibis Wildlife Consulting, Facilitator).

Recommendations for the Management Plan Update

The previous management plan for the Piscassic Greenway was completed in 2008 and encompassed 385 acres. Several parcels were added since that time (see attached map and the table below); the management plan update will include these new parcels. The PG now totals 491 acres.

Tract Name	Year Acquired	Size (acres)	Conservation Easement, Conservation Restrictions and/or Third Party Interest
Haughton-Falzone	2006	316	Town of Newfields, NOAA, US Fish & Wildlife Service, NH DES
Cole Farm	2006	33	Town of Newfields, USDA–NRCS Farmland Protection
Cole Wildlife	2006	36	Town of Newfields
Tucker #1	2012	59	The Nature Conservancy, US Fish & Wildlife Service
Tucker #2	2020	15	USDA–NRCS Wetlands Reserve, Town of Newmarket
Gaziano	2021	32	Town of Newmarket, LCHIP, NH DES

Forest Management

- Continue to manage forests for primary purposes: wildlife habitat, biodiversity, forest health, water quality, recreation. Income from forest products is not a focus, but any income can be used for further enhancements on the property.
- Update map of PG using same designations that are in the 2008 Plan: active management areas, modified reserves (limited management), and reserves (no active management, except as needed to control invasive plants or similar)
- Given climate change and weather patterns, ensure that any forest/habitat management operations occur during times to minimize rutting (e.g., frozen ground, very dry periods).
- Update map of big trees and other ecologically significant features; Retain large, legacy trees.
- Describe threats and opportunities to forest structure and composition resulting from invasive pests including Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) and Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).
- Include recent information on rare plants and animals and recommendations for management.

Invasive Plant Management

- Map the invasive plants on the Piscassic Greenway, especially prior to any management activities.
- To reduce spread of invasive plants, ensure that management equipment is clear of invasive plant material before coming on site; this includes logging and mowing equipment.
- Develop an invasive plant control plan. The Committee recommends the least impact with the best available science and Best Management Practices. This could involve engaging volunteers where feasible, limited use of herbicides, and mechanical methods.
- The MAC noted two areas of specific concern: glossy buckthorn in the early successional habitat and spotted knapweed and yellow rattle in the Cole Field.

Early Successional Habitat

- Map the existing early successional habitat in the central region of the PG and determine number of acres to be maintained over time and treatment cycle.
- Maintain a mosaic of vegetation ages so that not all is treated in one cycle.

Fields

- Continue to mow the Gaziano field. Evaluate what portion should continue to be mowed for hay and what portion delayed to a late fall mowing for wildlife.
- Continue the annual agricultural lease for the Cole Field; clarify which parts of the field are mowed for hay and which for breeding birds and other wildlife (i.e., timing of mowing).
- Continue the annual lease for the Helping Hands of Newfields garden.
- As noted above, mowing equipment should be free of invasive plant material before and after mowing.

Management Access

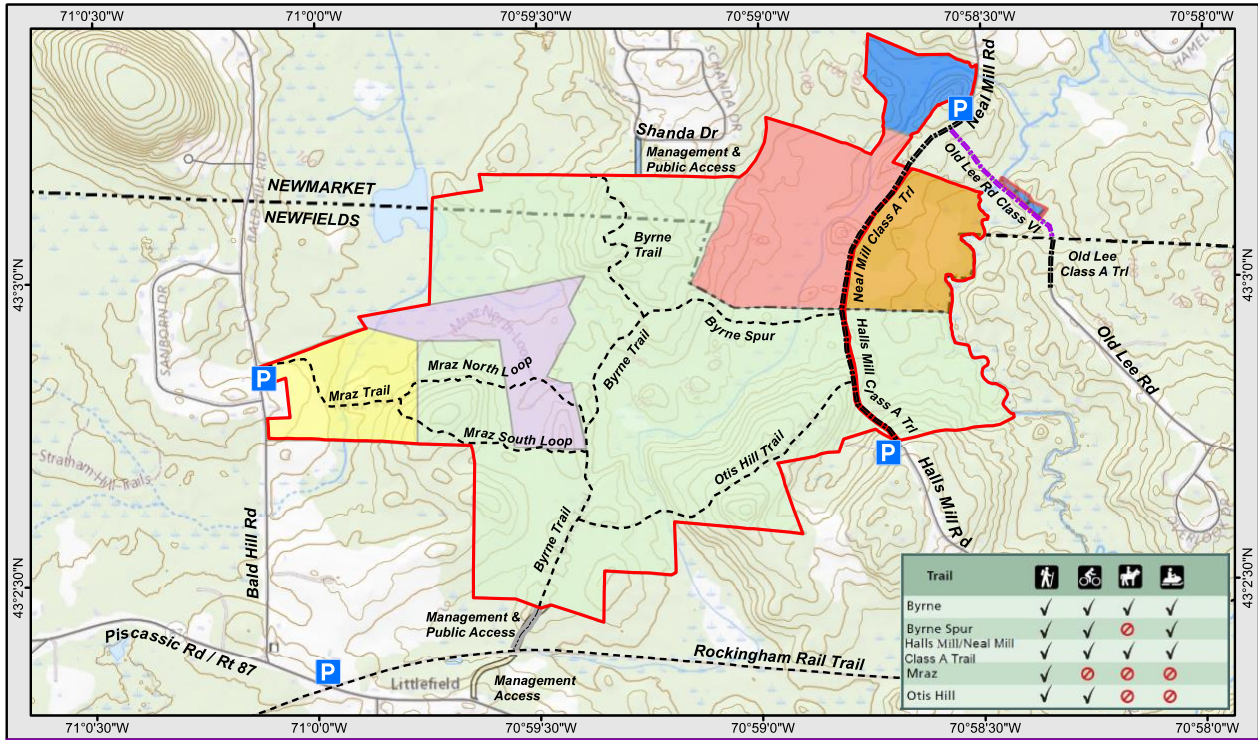
- Continue to maintain and use the following for Management Access.
 - **Neal Mill Road and Class A Trail Newmarket:** Provides best access to the east side of the PG for mowing, forestry, and other management equipment.
 - **Route 87 – Deeded Access through former Haughton property:** The primary access for getting management equipment and SELT staff and volunteers into the entire central region of the PG.
 - **Bald Hill Road, Newfields:** Provides access for mowing equipment to the Cole Field.
 - **Halls Mill Road and Class A Trail, Newfields:** Provides access for SELT staff and volunteers.

Public Parking and Trailheads

- **Mrasz Trailhead, Bald Hill Road:** This is the only parking area on the PG. Expand from 4 to 6 parking spaces, as allowed by the conservation easement deed.
- **Neal Mill Road, Newmarket and Halls Mill Road, Newfields:** These parking areas are maintained by the two towns, respectively.
- **Recreational Rail Trail:** A popular entry point, which involves a public access easement from the rail trail across private land to the PG.
- **North end of the Byrne Trail:** This entry point leads from private lands along the northern SELT boundary. Collaborate with abutters to maintain this access point.

Trails and Public Uses

- Maintain the existing trail network and allowed uses on the respective trails (see map).
- Reroute or improve trails as needed to avoid sensitive soils, erosion, and other issues.
- No additional trails recommended.
- Add trail signage as needed to inform visitors of allowed uses on trail segments.
- Collaborate with the Towns of Newmarket and Newfields to improve the drainage on the Neal Mill/Halls Mill Class A Trail and the Byrne Spur Trail.
- Update policy on motorized wheeled vehicles to allow for some ebikes and motorized electric vehicles for ADA accessibility.
- Continue to allow hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, nature observation, fishing, hunting, bicycling and horseback riding on designated trails, dog-walking (under voice control), foraging for personal non-commercial use, and the following with permission only: geocaching, wildlife cameras, trapping on a case-by-case basis.
- Continue to prohibit camping, fires, digging, drones, target shooting, collecting biotic and abiotic materials (other than for personal foraging), disturbance of natural materials.



Legend

- Piscassic Greenway Boundary
- Route 87 Management Access Easement
- Schanda Drive Management & Public Access Easement
- Rail Trail Management & Public Access Easement
- Public Trail
- Road
- Town boundary
- Class VI Road - unmaintained
- Class A trail: Maintained by town

Tract Names

- Cole Farm FRPP
- Cole Farm Wildlife
- Haughton-Falzone CE
- Tucker #1
- Tucker #2 Solo
- Tucker #2 WRP
- Gaziano

**Topographic Map
Piscassic Greenway
Newfields & Newmarket, NH**

Boundary and feature locations are approximate.
USGS topographic base map (published 1970-1998)
processed by NH GRANIT, coordinate system is
NAD83 UTM Zone 19N meters.

Map prepared by
Southeast Land Trust of NH
May 2023

0 1,000 2,000 Feet
1:14,500



TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Conservation Commission Operational Guidelines

ADOPTED
By the Newmarket Conservation Commission
XXXX XX, 2023

(This replaces the Conservation Commission By-Laws last amended 4-12-2007)

I. Purpose

In accordance with NH RSA 36-A:2 the Newmarket Conservation Commission was established in 1971 by Town Warrant "for the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources in town."

II. Responsibilities

- Maintain an inventory of all open space, natural, aesthetic, or ecological areas, including all wetlands.
- Care for town-owned conservation areas.
- Annually monitor town-held conservation easements.
- Review and comment on wetlands permit (dredge and fill) applications.
- Review sand and gravel excavation permit applications and renewals.
- Partner with other community entities as needed, including Scouts, Newmarket schools, Town Departments, and other Town Boards and Committees to steward lands, complete projects, conduct assessments, and identify solutions to conservation issues.
- Create interpretive materials for conservation area kiosks, trails signs, and other venues and host conservation-related educational programs.
- Work with interested landowners and partners to conserve land that protects drinking water, wildlife habitat, wetlands and streams, and other critical resources in the community.
- Maintain accurate records of meetings and actions.
- Create subcommittees or launch other initiatives to fulfill purpose and responsibilities.
- Refer to the New Hampshire's Municipal Conservation Commissions Handbook by the NHACC for further guidance.

III. Composition of the Conservation Commission

- The Conservation Commission shall consist of no less than three (3) and not more than seven (7) term members appointed for staggering three (3) year terms by the Town Council.
- One Commissioner shall serve as a representative from the Planning Board.
- One member of the Town Council shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting member.

- The Conservation Commission shall consist of up to three (3) alternates appointed for staggering three (3) year terms by the Town Council.
- Conservation Commissioners shall be residents of the town.
- Members must be sworn in by the Town Clerk prior to starting their term.

IV. Officers

- The Commission shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair by a majority vote of the Conservation Commission members at the first monthly meeting following the Town Council Organizational Meeting that appoints members. Vacancies in office shall be filled immediately at the next meeting by a majority vote of the Commissioners in attendance, providing a quorum is present.
- Responsibilities of the Chair:
 - Prepare and distribute the monthly meeting agenda and Chair the monthly meeting. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall run the monthly meeting.
 - Serve as the primary contact person with the Town Council, Town Manager, Town Planner, and Other Department Heads
 - Ensure that town-held conservation easements are monitored annually, and copies of the monitoring reports are filed with partners, where required, and a hard copy kept in the Conservation Commission files at the Town Hall.
 - Ensure that the Conservation Commission webpages on the Town Website are maintained with accurate and up-to-date information.
 - Ensure an accurate list of town-owned conservation areas and conservation easements is maintained.
 - Work with the Town Finance Office to prepare a monthly finance report for presentation at the monthly Conservation Commission meeting.
 - Submit an annual report for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report.
 - Respond to information requests, permit requests, and other correspondence.
 - Delegate any of the above responsibilities to other members of the Commission, as needed.

V. Meetings

- All meeting shall be open to the public. Notice of all monthly meetings shall be posted in two places at least four (4) days in advance and in accordance with all applicable local, state and federal laws.
- The Conservation Commission shall hold monthly meetings on the second Thursday of every month in the Newmarket Town Hall.
- A Recording Secretary shall take the minutes at the monthly Conservation Commission meetings. Draft minutes shall be approved at a subsequent meeting. Final approved meeting minutes shall be submitted by the Recording Secretary to the Town Manager's Office for filing with the Town Clerk and posting to the Town website.

- Business may be conducted with any number of members present, but should a quorum not be present, all business requiring a vote, shall be deferred until the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting or emergency meeting. If the next regularly scheduled meeting fails to have a quorum, a favorable vote by a majority of the members present shall decide for the Conservation Commission, all such deferred business.
- In the absence of a term member at a given monthly meeting, the Chair shall appoint an alternate to vote in their place for the duration of that meeting.
- These Conservation Commission Operational Guidelines can be amended at any time by a majority vote of the Commission.

VI. Finances

- The Conservation Commission has sole authority to expend from the Conservation Fund, a non-lapsing fund that can accumulate year-to-year and which can receive both private and public funds.
- The allocation of 50% of the Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) to the Conservation Fund was approved at the 1989 Town Meeting. LUCT is paid by a landowner to the municipality when land that was enrolled in the Current Use assessment program is removed from current use.
- The Commission also receives an annual allocation from the General Fund budget. The Commission submits a budget request to the Town Planner and Town Manager for consideration during the annual budget process. These funds are used for operating expenses such as personnel (recording secretary, consultants), membership dues, postage, and supplies.
- The Commission approves expenditures from the Conservation Fund at a monthly meeting and submits payment requests to the Town Finance Department, which manages the Conservation Commission accounts.
- The Commission must hold a public hearing before using money from the Conservation Fund to acquire any interest in real property. The meeting notice must be posted in two places and published in a local newspaper at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing. The Town Council must also approve the acquisition of any interest in land.
- At the 2009 Newmarket Town Meeting, voters passed a warrant article that "...adopts the provisions of RSA 36-A: 4-a, I (b) allowing the Conservation Commission to expend funds for contributions to qualified organizations (such as land trusts) for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related to thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the town will retain no interest in the property." At the same town meeting, voters did not approve provisions related to RSA 36-A: 4-a, I (a), which would have authorized the Conservation Commission to expend funds to purchase interest in land outside the boundaries of Newmarket.



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Conservation Commission

June 8, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment
4. Guest Speaker: Doug Cygan, NH Invasive Species Coordinator
Identifying and Managing Invasive Japanese Knotweed
5. Approve Meeting Minutes: April 13, 2023 and May 11, 2023
6. Financial Summary
7. SELT's Piscassic Greenway Management Plan Update – Drew Kiefaber
8. Conservation Commission Operating Guidelines - adopt
9. Committee/Board Reports
 - Town Council
 - Planning Board
 - Riverfront Advisory Committee/Schanda Park
 - Other Committee Reports
10. Initiatives
 - Pathways for People and Nature
 - Stream and Wildlife Crossings
 - Pollinator Pathways
11. Land Stewardship
 - Sliding Rock Recreation and Conservation Area: LRAC grant
 - Piscassic River–Loiselle: entrance sign
 - Wiggin Farm: UNH interns, kiosk
 - Dearborn: Driveway ROW easement
12. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3
13. Adjourn



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Conservation Commission

May 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Ellen Snyder (Chair), David Bell, Jeffrey Goldknopf (Planning Board Rep.), Tom Jones (Alternate), Sam Kenney, Colin Lawson (Alternate), and Julianna Tyson

Members Absent: Melissa Sharples (Vice-Chair), Cris Blackstone, Colin White (Town Council Rep- *ex officio*)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. [time on DCAT 7:59]

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call

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

3. Public Comment

There were no comments this evening.

4. Guest Speaker: Dr. Gabriela Bradt, UNH [time on DCAT 8:42- 56:30]

Microplastics on NH Beaches: What have we learned in 8 years.

Dr. Gabriela Bradt is a fisheries specialist holding a double appointment with NH Sea Grant and UNH Coop Ext. She focuses on NH fisheries, the seafood industry, and on the European green crabs (an invasive species) as well as microplastics found on NH beaches. Outreach and education are upper most in her work. They are non-advocacy groups that present scientific and evidence based information to both researchers and their stakeholders at the State, regional, and national levels. She works with local fishermen on direct marketing and presents workshops with chefs and members of the seafood industry to expand the palates of consumers to incorporate new flavors of underutilized food sources like green crabs and seaweed. Aquaculture is also important in her work. The local lobstermen cleanup derelict debris along the coastline annually in the spring. They can clear up to 10 tons per annum of lost and abandoned traps, buoys, floats, etc. In general, people have become overly reliant on single use plastic and,

1 when it is carelessly discarded, plastic breaks down in the ocean into smaller and
 2 smaller bits with the wave and storm action. NOAA defines microplastics of 5 mm or
 3 less as a microplastic and 1 mm or less as a nanoplastic. UNH Coop Ext began
 4 monitoring five recreational beaches in NH in 2014 with the help of many volunteers.
 5 They choose a 1 meter square plot at the high tide mark and monitor by sieving and
 6 collecting what they find from April to October. Each beach has 5 sites: 1 in the north, 1
 7 in the south, and 3 in the middle. The five beaches she surveys and collects data on
 8 include: Wallis Sands, Jenness, Hampton, Hampton Harbor, and Seabrook Beaches.
 9 Seabrook Beach is much cleaner in general because no one can get there...no parking
 10 places etc. Styrofoam balls are the worst microplastic because they are light and can
 11 move around easily. They have been working with a biostatistician at UNH, Dr. Patricia
 12 Jarema, to look at the large data set to, hopefully, help make some statistically based
 13 recommendations. **Colin** asked about how to increase PR. She says, that although
 14 many people see the problem, she finds that doing outreach to younger groups is
 15 making a difference. The next step is putting pressure on corporations. The Blue Ocean
 16 Society schedules all the cleanups, so if people are interested, they should contact them
 17 directly. [Beach Cleanups and Marine Debris Research – Blue Ocean Society for Marine
 18 Conservation](#) .Thank you so much Dr. Bradt!

19 **5. Financial Summary**

[time on DCAT 56:27]

20 The Chair reported that the balance in the Conservation Fund is \$131,829.10 with no
 21 expenditures last month. The General Fund has a current balance remaining of \$1,483.75.
 22
 23

24 **6. SELT's Piscassic Greenway Management Plan Update**

time on DCAT 57:27 – 1:18:00]

25 Drew Kiefaber is with us this evening to update the members on SELT's progress with
 26 the Piscassic Greenway Management Plan. The Plan is on a ten year cycle for updates.
 27 They have established a Management Advisory Committee made up of members from
 28 Newfields, Newmarket, Fish & Game, and also SELT's new trail manager, Yohann
 29 Hanley. **Ellen** has been hired to facilitate their meetings. They have just wrapped up the
 30 final set of meetings. Drew reviewed the history of the greenway which began as three
 31 pieces of property. Charlie Marenco was the original person who created the
 32 management plan. He has been hired again to do the update. The first three properties
 33 were in Newfields and, as SELT added new properties over time, they were primarily in
 34 Newmarket. Each piece of property has different funding partners. This means that each
 35 property may have its own restrictions and constraints. The goal is to manage the
 36 greenway for wildlife habitat, biodiversity, forest health, water quality, and recreation.
 37 There have been and will continue to be timber harvesting on the properties. If there is
 38 any income from harvesting, it is usually reinvested in the property. A fair number of
 39 invasive species have negatively impacted tree species on the properties. Two of these
 40 include the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). The
 41 Advisory Committee is asking questions of Charlie as to whether or not the trees should
 42 be taken out or left in to die in place. There are also invasive plants in the fields and
 43 what happens if they mow? Will they spread? There are also different uses especially in
 44 the case of the Cole Farm: 1) a community garden space, and 2) a sheep farm.
 45

1 Management access to these properties include Neal Mill Road, Halls Mill Road, and a
 2 private access off of Rt. 87. There are likely to be recommendations related to public
 3 use, trailheads, and parking. The Committee hopes to wrap up their recommendations
 4 by next month and Drew will return to give the ConCom a handout. **Jeff** asked whether
 5 there have been discussions about possible improvements to Halls Mill Road which is
 6 quite wet. Possible drainage help? The two members from Newfields (both on their
 7 ConCom) and Yohann from SELT have been addressing trail improvement ideas.

8 Action

9 **Motion:** **Jeff Goldknopf** moved that the Conservation Commission recommend
 10 that the Town Council reclassify the portion of Old Lee Road in
 11 Newmarket (currently a Class 6 road) to a Class A Trail.

12 **Second:** **Julianna Tyson**

13 **Discussion:** None

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

15
 16 **Ellen** will write a letter to the Town Council.

17 18 **7. Conservation Commission Operating Guidelines [time on DCAT 1:20:00]**

19 The Chair included in the packet the proposed ConCom draft of Operating Guidelines.
 20 Several members had not had a chance to review them yet, so the discussion is
 21 postponed to the next meeting without objection.

22 23 **8. Committee/Board Reports [time on DCAT 1:21:18]**

24 **Planning Board and Town Planner** - **Jeff** reported that the PB met last Tuesday. **Bart**
 25 read the draft of the "Pathways for People and Nature" and the PB was very supportive.
 26 Congratulations, **Jeff**, for being reappointed to the Conservation Commission as the PB
 27 Representative again this year.

28 **Riverfront Advisory Committee/Schanda Park** – **Sam** reported that the committee met
 29 last Monday. The conversation centered around how one might expand the River Walk
 30 to the south. Both **Bart** and Lyndsey were there and it appears that the charrette may
 31 not happen until next spring. They had a discussion about park maintenance: missing
 32 bricks, tree trimming, schedule of trash pickup. **Ellen** mentioned the Schanda Fund and
 33 that we haven't used any of those funds yet. She will meet with Sam, Aimee, and Rick
 34 to assess the conditions of the park.

35
 36 The Chair has received an application for the use of Schanda Park. Elizabeth Loabe
 37 would like to hold a Celebration of Life ceremony for Thomas Sewall.

38 Action

39 **Motion:** **Tom Jones** moved to approve the use of Schanda Park by Elizabeth
 40 Loabe from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM on 6/3, 6/10, or 6/17 for a Celebration
 41 of Life for Thomas Sewall.

42 **Second:** **David Bell**

43 **Discussion:** None

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

1 The Chair will notify Ms. Loabe and ask her to choose a date.

2 Town Council – We do not have a representative, but should by the next meeting.

3 Energy and Environment Advisory Committee – The ConCom needs to appoint a
4 representative to the EEAC. **Julianna Tyson** has agreed to continue to serve.

5 Action

6 **Motion:** **Tom Jones** moved to appoint **Julianna Tyson** as the ConCom
7 Representative for the EEAC for 2023-2024.

8 **Second:** **Colin Lawson**

9 **Discussion:** None

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

11
12 **Julianna** reported that the Town Council will be voting on the Community Power
13 Coalition at the next meeting. Community Power has enrolled 63,000+ members since
14 the end of April. Another 10,000 still remain to enroll. The enrollment includes the towns
15 of Exeter, Durham, Dover, Portsmouth, and Stratham. Newfields is still looking into the
16 program.

17 Newmarket 300th Steering Committee – No report this evening.

18 **9. Initiatives**

[time on DCAT 1:30:00]

19 Pollinator Pathways – **Melissa** told **Ellen** that she has reached out to the Jr/Sr HS and
20 the Recreation Center and she is getting responses.

21 Pathways for People and Nature – The ConCom had no further comments on the
22 document.

23 Action

24 **Motion:** **Jeff Goldknopf** moved to formally adopt and share the “Pathways for
25 People and Nature” initiative as written.

26 **Second:** **Sam Kenney**

27 **Discussion:** **Ellen** is working with Pete Steckler on the big maps with overlay trails
28 for this project.

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

30
31
32 Stream and Wildlife Crossings – **Colin** reported that he still needs a few weeks to have the
33 full data set ready for the members to discuss. He is meeting with the Chair of the HOA for
34 the Boulder Assoc. and **Bart** at 9:00 AM tomorrow. They seem to be receptive to improving
35 the trail. There was an old dam near the river for ice skating, but it is in disrepair.

36 **11. Land Stewardship**

[time on DCAT 1:31:53]

37 Sliding Rock Recreation and Conservation Area: The Chair reported that the Recreation
38 Dept. has the 2nd kayak rack now and slips are being rented out. As soon as the racks
39 are placed, **Tom** and **Ellen** are going out to fence off the eroding slope.

40
41
42 The Chair was contacted by a UNH student, Lauren White. She would like to set up
43 camera traps at the turtle crossings on Ash Swamp Road. **Ellen** referred her to **Jeff** and
44 Lyndsey Butler, the Town Engineer, to determine what permissions might be required.
45 Josh Megyesy from F&G referred her to us. Thank you DPW for putting up the turtle

1 crossing signs last month!

2

3 **10. Events** [time on DCAT 1:46:46]

4 2023 Newmarket Fishing Derby: The Chair reported that they have raised all necessary
5 funding for the Fishing Derby this year. We have been asked to be the Town sponsor
6 for the Derby this year. She spoke to them and said she wished to have a conversation
7 with them and the Rec Dept sometime this summer.

8

Action

9 **Motion**: **Colin Lawson** moved that the ConCom be the Town sponsor for the
10 Fishing Derby for 2023.

11 **Second**: **Tom Jones**

12 **Discussion**: None

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

14

15 Rec Connect & Backyard Bash Events: The Chair spoke to **Cris** about making a trail
16 related bookmark - one side for ConCom and the Library on the other side. It might be a
17 good combination. She will get in touch with the Librarian.

18

19 **11. Land Stewardship (cont.)** [time on DCAT 1:51:03]

20 Piscassic River–Loiselle: **Melissa** told the Chair that the sign is done and she is working
21 with the sign maker and DPW to see about the installation.

22 Wiggin Farm: The work day at Wiggin Farm was just amazing! The group completed 50'
23 of boardwalk and cleaned the sign and set it. DPW hauled away the old kiosk. There
24 are great pictures of workers on the web site – check it out! **Ellen** sent around pictures
25 of smaller and lighter kiosks that we might consider. We have the UNH Interns around
26 June 5, so we could use them to build the kiosk.

27

Action

28 **Motion**: **Sam Kenney** made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to
29 \$500.00 for building materials for the kiosk at Wiggin Farm.

30 **Second**: **Julianna Tyson**

31 **Discussion**: None

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

33

34 The ConCom will vote on hiring a designer for the kiosk sign at the next meeting. **Ellen**
35 will be working on the text and images...the designer does the rest.

36

37 The Chair mentioned the remaining balance in the General Fund for supplies is
38 \$123.00. She would like to use some of those funds to buy some of the expensive
39 hardware (screws).

40

Action

41 **Motion**: **Colin Lawson** made a motion to use up the remainder of the supply
42 monies for FY2023 (after the Recording Secretary expenses) for the
43 purchase of hardware for future use.

1 **Second:** David Bell
 2 **Discussion:** None
 3 **Vote:** Approved Unanimously 7-0-0
 4

5 **Newmarket Cares Day:** The date will be May 26 (Friday at 8:30 AM). The Chair plans to
 6 take the young volunteers to Wiggin Farm for several projects.

7 **UNH Interns:** The Chair will have the UNH Interns from June 5-7 and plans to work at
 8 Wiggin Farm and Heron Point with them.

9 **Dearborn:** Driveway ROW easement is still making its way to the Attorney General's
 10 Office.

11 **Julianna** is the Piping Plover Monitor for Fish & Game this season and she is getting
 12 ready to train volunteers for the monitoring process. There are 6 nests of Piping Plovers
 13 on Hampton Beach and Seabrook Beach and monitoring will begin around June 1st or
 14 June 2nd. If you are interested, please let her know. The piping plover is globally
 15 threatened and endangered.
 16

17 **Jeff** wanted to thank Toni Weinstein for organizing the successful roadside cleanup
 18 effort this year. He also wanted to mention that Epping has been dumping effluent into
 19 the Lamprey River. He was curious if anyone was testing. The Chair will email Sean
 20 Greig and inquire. Newmarket does not take drinking water from the Lamprey.
 21

22 **12. Adjourn**

[time on DCAT 2:05:16]

23 **Action**

24 **Motion:** Tom Jones moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 PM.

25 **Second:** Jeff Goldknopf

26 **Discussion:** None

27 **Vote:** Approved Unanimously 7-0-0
 28
 29

30 Respectfully submitted,

31
 32 Sue Frick, Recording Secretary
 33
 34
 35
 36

37 **DCAT:**

38 https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/XSekdEeRsk0JHQVHAvKJVka7_5VjxKP/videos
 39
 40
 41
 42

Town of Newmarket, New Hampshire					
Conservation Commission -- Conservation Fund (5June23)					
Items (date of motion)	Date of CC Approval -- Discussion	Date of Debit, Revenue, or Balance	Conservation Commission Fund	Richard Schanda Fund	TOTAL
		8/1/22	\$129,846.64	\$4,764.46	\$134,611.10
		10/5/22	\$129,084.24	\$4,764.46	\$133,848.70
		11/3/22	\$129,233.55	\$4,764.46	\$133,998.01
		12/2/22	\$129,226.83	\$4,764.46	\$133,991.29
		1/5/23	\$128,888.83	\$4,764.46	\$133,653.29
		2/3/23	\$126,792.88	\$4,764.46	\$131,557.34
		4/1/23	\$127,064.64	\$4,764.46	\$131,829.10
		6/5/23	\$124,953.09	\$4,764.46	\$129,717.55
CREDITS					
Interest		7/31/22	\$18.04		
Interest		8/31/22	\$44.56		
Interest		9/30/22	\$80.61		
Interest		10/31/22	\$139.29		
Interest corrections		10/31/22	\$8.80		
Interest corrections		10/31/22	\$29.73		
Interest		11/30/22	\$135.15		
Interest		12/31/22	\$118.46		
Interest		1/31/23	\$364.51		
Interest		2/28/23	\$412.30		
Interest		3/31/23	\$239.58		
Interest		4/30/23	\$271.76		
Interest		5/31/23	\$287.33		
Land Use Change Tax (LUCT)					
LUCT - 17A Cushing Rd balance		9/12/22	\$443.84		
LUCT -- 60 Grant Rd -- \$8,400 pending					
Other Contributions					
LRAC Heron Pt Community Grant - final payment		10/18/22	\$639.12		
LRAC Sliding Rock Comm Grant- 1st payment		11/30/22	\$3,162.50		
LCHIP annual easement monitoring		3/1/23	\$600.00		

Town of Newmarket, New Hampshire					
Conservation Commission -- Conservation Fund (5June23)					
Items (date of motion)	Date of CC Approval -- Discussion	Date of Debit, Revenue, or Balance	Conservation Commission Fund	Richard Schanda Fund	TOTAL
DEBITS this FY					
Heron Point kiosk trail map (Martin Forestry) LRAC grant	3/10/22	7/21/22	\$690.00		
Heron Point kiosk panel design (Cathy Arakelian) LRAC grant	3/10/22	8/9/22	\$825.00		
Heron Point kiosk panels printing (Portsmouth Sign) LRAC grant	3/10/22	9/14/22	\$581.00		
NHACC annual subscription (\$300 from general fund)	10/13/22	10/20/22	\$150.00		
Oct 15th Conservation Connections event - PR-L workday	9/8/22	11/8/22	\$131.61		
Wiggin Farm invasive plant control RCCD	2/10/22	11/8/22	\$3,190.00		
Piscassic River - Loiselle - bridge materials	11/10/22	11/30/22	\$220.46		
Piscassic River-Loiselle trail signs	11/10/22	12/20/22	\$236.00		
Sliding Rock Consr Area--hazard tree removal	12/8/22	1/4/23	\$2,000.00		
Piscassic River-Loiselle entrance sign--down payment, 1/2	11/10/22	1/11/23	\$1,187.50		
Piscassic River-Loiselle PT wood for trail signs	1/12/23	1/24/23	\$24.84		
Sliding Rock Consr Area - -- assessment of trail	12/8/22	3/23/23	\$500.00		
Sliding Rock Consr Area - -- kayak rack and lock	12/8/22	5/4/23	\$1,361.93		
Wiggin Farm bridge boardwalk extension - Exeter Lumber	3/9/23	5/9/23	\$133.84		
Wiggin Farm bridge boardwalk extension - Exeter Lumber	3/9/23	5/9/23	\$825.57		
Wiggin Farm bridge boardwalk extension - volunteer supplies	3/9/23	5/9/23	\$77.54		
Approved to be spent:					
Piscassic River-Loiselle entrance sign (added \$300 12/8/22)	11/10/22	1/11/23	\$1,187.50		
LRAC Sliding Rock Community Grant - \$6,325:					
Sliding Rock Consr Area - -- kiosk panels/other signs	12/8/22		\$2,000.00		
Sliding Rock Consr Area - -- fencing	12/8/22		\$100.00		
Wiggin Farm kiosk - materials	5/11/23		\$500.00		
To be Considered:					
Schanda Park improvements - Newmarket Cares Day	6/8/23			\$144.27	

Newmarket Conservation Commission Funds						
FY23		General Fund: 014611				
General Fund Budget		\$4,185.00				
	Date of motion or debit	Part-Time Salary	Contracted	Dues/ Subscriptions	General Supplies	Postage
BUDGETED		\$3,335.00	\$300.00	\$350.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
EXPENDED		\$1,940.22	\$360.00	\$350.00	\$76.67	\$0.00
BALANCE		\$1,394.78	-\$60.00	\$0.00	\$123.33	\$0.00
General Fund total balance (5June2023)		\$1,458.11				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	7/14/22	\$137.04				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	7/28/22	\$162.74				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	8/11/22	\$9.87				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	8/25/22	\$218.30				
Recording Secretary - supplies (10/14/21)	8/31/22				\$52.41	
Part-time salary, recording secretary	9/22/22	\$66.83				
Supplies - notebook, files	9/20/22				\$17.24	
NHACC dues	10/20/22			\$350.00		
Part-time salary, recording secretary	10/6/22	\$4.46				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	10/20/22	\$26.73				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	11/3/22	\$427.68				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	11/17/22	\$57.92				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	12/1/22	\$178.20				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	1/12/23	\$111.38				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	1/26/23	\$173.75				
SELT - Hilton Easement monitoring	1/31/23		\$360.00		\$5.88	
Postage - monitoring letters	1/31/23				\$1.14	
Part-time salary, recording secretary	2/23/23	\$53.46				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	3/9/23	\$80.19				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	3/23/23	\$129.20				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	4/6/23	\$53.46				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	4/20/23	\$13.37				
Part-time salary, recording secretary	5/18/23	\$35.64				
Approved to be Spent						
Supplies	5/11/23				\$100.00	



TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH
**CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

Kirsten Howard
Coastal Resilience Specialist
NH Department of Environmental Services, Coastal Program
222 International Drive, Suite 175
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Re: Letter of Support for Newmarket's Application for Coastal Resilience Funding

Dear Kirsten,

I am pleased to submit this letter on behalf of the Newmarket Conservation Commission ("Commission"), in support of the proposal from the Town of Newmarket, in partnership with the Strafford Regional Planning Commission ("SRPC") and Plan New Hampshire ("Plan NH"), entitled "*Downtown Riverfront Community Facility Master Plan Update*."

SRPC, with technical and personnel assistance from Newmarket staff and Plan NH, proposes to introduce a comprehensive set of revisions into the Town's Master Plan that will include improvements to the downtown riverfront. The goal is to create a more resilient, accessible, inclusive, and actively used waterfront along the Lamprey River.

The Commission is responsible for the stewardship of Schanda Park, located at the outlet of Moonlight Brook to the Lamprey River. As part of the Master Plan update process, the Commission fully supports the Town's pursuit of funding to conduct a revised hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) study for Moonlight Brook. Such an analysis is critical as baseline data for future renovations at Schanda Park that improve water quality and shoreline resiliency.

The Master Plan update aims to integrate other ongoing local and regional resilience projects and engage the public in planning and designing riverfront improvements. This community-driven process will guide the Town on adapting to the impacts of a changing climate, achieving local and regional resilience goals, and fostering a culture of long-term social, economic, and environmental well-being in our community.

We offer our in-kind contributions to this collaborative initiative through active participation on the Town's Riverfront Advisory Committee and related planning efforts, including review and comment on plans and other documents. We look forward to collaborating with other stakeholders in Newmarket in furtherance of coastal resiliency in New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Ellen Snyder, Chair
Newmarket Conservation Commission



TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Date: May 22, 2023
To: Newmarket Town Council
CC: Steve Fournier, Town Manager
Bart McDonough, Director of Planning and Community Development
From: Newmarket Conservation Commission
Re: Reclassifying Class VI Old Lee Road to a Class A Trail

Recommendation

The Conservation Commission recommends that the Town Council reclassify Old Lee Road from a Class VI Road to a Class A Trail, in accordance with RSA 231-A Municipal Trails.

Justification

- As recommended by the Conservation Commission, on May 4, 2022, the Town Council adopted Resolution 2021/2022-31, which reclassified the Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road to a Class A Trail.
- This Class A Trail now extends from the gate at the end of Neal Mill Road in Newmarket to the gate at the end of Halls Mill Road in Newfields, providing exceptional recreational access for the public, and protecting an ecologically significant area from future development.
- The Town of Newfields reclassified their Class VI portions of Halls Mill Road and Old Lee Road as Class A Trails at their March 12, 2019, Town Meeting.
- In Newmarket, the Class VI Old Lee Road runs approximately 1,500 feet from the Neal Mill Class A Trail, across the Piscassic River on a recreational bridge, to the Class A Trail in Newfields; hence it is now bracketed by two Class A Trails. The reclassification to a trail still allows abutting landowners to use the trail to access their land for forestry and agricultural uses.
- Class A Trail designation enables the Town and its partners to apply for grants and use funds to improve and maintain the trails (typically towns expend no funds to maintain Class VI Roads). And the section of Old Lee Rd in Newmarket needs some drainage work to fix erosion issues.
- This region of Newmarket and Newfields is historic, scenic (bounded by stone walls and large trees), and supports popular year-round trails for hiking, mountain biking, x-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, running, dog walking, and nature observation.
- Reclassification will also help protect the significant water resources here, including the Piscassic River riparian corridor and the Tucker Well, which is located just downstream.

The map shows the location of these roads and trails.

