



**NEWMARKET CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING**

**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022
7:00 PM**

TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Guest Speaker: Joshua Megyesey, NHFG, Turtles around us and their Habitats
5. Approval of Meeting Minutes, April 14, 2022
6. Finance Report – Chair
7. Funding Request – Newmarket Fishing Derby, Rich Heidt
8. Committee/Board Reports
 - Planning Board
 - Town Council
 - Public Hearing on Reclassifying Class VI Neal Mill Rd to Class A Trail
 - Riverfront Advisory
9. Land Stewardship Projects and Priorities
 - Heron Point Sanctuary
 - Wiggin Farm Conservation Area
 - Piscassic-Loiselle Conservation Area
 - Schanda Park
10. Events
 - April 2022 Earth Week Roadside Clean-up Re-cap
 - May 13, 2022 Newmarket Day of Caring
 - May 14, 2022 Wiggin Farm Invasive Plant Pull
 - June 9, 2022 CC Monthly Meeting: Matt Larkin, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
11. Adjourn

TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

April 14, 2022 7:00 PM

Town Hall Auditorium|

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Melissa Sharples at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: Melissa Sharples (Vice Chair), Ellen Snyder (Treasurer), David Bell, Cris Blackstone, Jeffrey Goldknopf (Planning Board Rep), Sam Kenney, Melissa Brogle (Alternate), and Megan Brabec (Town Council Rep-Ex Officio)

Members Absent: Julianna Tyson (Alternate)

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Roll Call

The Vice-Chair appointed Melissa Brogle as a voting member for this evening.

2. Election of Officers 2022-2023

Two officers to be appointed this evening.

Action

Motion: Melissa Sharples moved to nominate **Ellen Snyder** as the Chair.

Second: Cris Blackstone

Discussion: None

Approved: Approved 7-0-0

Action

Motion: Ellen Snyder moved to nominate **Melissa Sharples** as the Vice-Chair.

Second: Cris Blackstone

Discussion: None

Approved: Approved 7-0-0

Melissa Sharples transferred the gavel to **Ellen Snyder** to continue the meeting as Chair.

3. Public Comments

Bart McDonough, the new Director of Planning & Community Development for the Town, stood to introduce himself to the Commission. He looks forward to working with the Conservation Commission. Members congratulated him on his new position and welcomed him to the Town.

4. Visiting Guest Speaker

This evening we are pleased to have two speakers from Pollinator Pathways. **Melissa Sharples** introduced Marghi Bean (Vice-Chair of the Kingston Conservation Commission) and Evy Nathan (Chair of the Kingston Conservation Commission), founders of the area's Pollinator Pathways to discuss their mission and what we might do as a Town or individual(s) to improve pollinator habitat. Their vision is to connect sustained pollinator habitat throughout New Hampshire. Their mission is to restore habitat, one yard at a time, through community partnerships education and engagement. A pollinator pathway is defined as a public and private pesticide-free corridor of native plants that provide nutrition and habitat for pollinating insects

and birds. Even the smallest green spaces, like flower boxes and curb strips, can be part of a pathway. To be part of The Pollinator Pathway group 1) rethink your lawn, 2) plant native plants, 3) remove invasive plants, and 4) avoid pesticides. They have come before us to ask for our commitment as a partner in Pollinator Pathways NH in several ways:

-Locate a liaison with whom they may work, either in your commission or someone with a keen interest in pollinator conservation

-Commit to holding one event per year which is pollinator related

-Spread the message on social media, by promoting events held by our partner commissions by sharing resources with your community

There are many wonderful websites that have so much information available at their website:

[Pollinator Pathways NH | Kingston NH](#) and their Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pollinatorpathwaysnh

Mantras: “Be a Lazy Gardner!” and “Help One Yard at a Time!” They provided a table full of informational pamphlets as-well-as free milkweed seeds planting. All the members were very excited to help with this projects.

5. Update by SELT on the Gaziano Tract Easement Deed

We were joined this evening by Duane Hyde, Land Conservation Director for the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire (SELT). He planned to discuss the easement deed right of conservation restrictions and enforcement (all members had received a copy by email). They have a bridge loan until June 1 and are working on securing all of the grant funds. LCHIP provided the template for the document and amended it to include the NHDES Drinking Water program language. He discussed the requirements for the Town to maintain an executory interest. Information/feedback from the Drinking & Ground Water Trust Fund included the provision that the property shall not allow motorized recreational vehicles. Under certain conditions, snowmobiles may be an approved use on the property if they are operating on snow and ice and must be operating outside of any sanitary protective area for the public water supply. They must be at least 250 ft from a surface water body being used as a water supply. They have to be more than 100 ft from any tributaries contributing to those water bodies that are acting as a water supply and may only operate on designated snowmobile trails depicted on a plan approved by the NHDES. He is still waiting to hear from the Town’s attorney. Once he has that, the Gaziano Tract Easement Deed will go forward to the State Attorney General for final review. SELT hopes to go before the Governor and Council on June 1, 2022 for the authorization for NHDES to expend the funds on the project. After that, the goal is to close by the end of June and secure the funds from all participants. The Chair mentioned a small correction on page 4 about the Silverman and the Schneer Easements and he agreed to make those changes. SELT plans to complete a “sketch” management plan at closing, but it may take a year to develop the complete management plan for this parcel. SELT is examining the mowing of the field...maybe once, maybe twice per year, but they are concerned about pollinator use and ground/grassland bird nesting. The Chair mentioned that a kiosk will be placed inside the gate on Neal Mill Road and SELT will add all of their information to the board which will make a nice trail head. Duane will keep us informed of any progress.

Cris Blackstone asked Duane to speak about their move to new office space at the Nan and George Mathey Center for People and Nature (a net-zero facility) located at the Burley Farms, 247 North River Road in Epping. It is beautiful new facility surrounded by 500 acres of conservation land. They plan an open house and their partners will be invited. The SELT website

is full of great information: [Home - SELT \(seltnh.org\)](http://seltnh.org)

6. Approval of Minutes

March 10, 2022

Action

- Motion:** **Melissa Sharples** moved to approve the draft minutes of March 10, 2022 as written.
- Second:** **Cris Blackstone**
- Comments:** None
- Approved:** **Approved 6-0-1 (Sam Kenney abstained)**

The Chair plans to transition to a ‘packet’ like the Council and Planning Board do for each meeting. Members thought this would be great.

7. Treasurer’s Report

Ellen Snyder reported that the Conservation Fund has a current balance of \$162,703.12 and this includes the Schanda Park Fund. We did receive a little bit of interest. The General Fund balance is \$363.70. The only expenditure this month was \$1,000 to Orion Tree Service for removal of trees at Heron Point. This expenditure was taken from the \$5,000 LRAC Grant.

8. Committee and Subcommittee Reports

Riverfront Advisory Committee: **Sam Kenney** reported that there was a webinar on Friday, April 8 hosted by NHDES which was a wrap-up of the projects at both Schanda Park and Heron Point. **Sam** wanted to especially thank Dale Pike (Town resident and Board of Director member of the Coastal Conservation Association of New Hampshire) and Kyle Pimental (Strafford Regional Planning Commission) for all of their work to make these projects successful. The Town now has the updated packet and must decide how to proceed. The Committee plans to continue meet.

Town Council: **Megan Brabec** reported that last week was the Town Council tutorial meeting for new and continuing counselors on the rules and regulations given by the Town Manager. This week, the TC held their annual joint meeting with the School Board to talk about shared goals. **Megan** has requested to remain on the ConCom, but assignments will be completed at the next meeting.

The Chair would like to ask the Town Manager to attend one of our meetings to present the rules and regulations. **Cris Blackstone** will check with the Executive Director of the NHACC, Barbara Richter, to see if she is available to make a presentation to us on the services and the many resources that membership makes available to the ConCom.

Planning Board: **Jeff Goldknopf** reported that a special use permit has been granted to the project on Wadleigh Falls. Bart McDonough spoke about the approval issued at the last Planning Board meeting on April 12, 2022: “to approve the Site Plan for Seacoast Pool Plastering LLC/Robert MacInnis located on Tax Map R6, Lots 50-7 & 50-8, in the B3 Zone to permit the proposed construction of a 2,000 sq ft storage shed, approximately 84,000 sq ft of gravel parking for storage of trucks, trailers, and equipment, and associated access and stormwater management infrastructure as proposed.

Subject to following conditions:

1. *The two existing lots will be merged and access will be from an existing paved driveway off of*

Rt. 152 Wadleigh Falls Road.

2. *The Town Engineer's final review and approval of any outstanding items previously submitted to the applicant.*
 3. *The site shall be limited to the proposed uses as submitted in the revised site plan being used for storage of materials and equipment. Any changes beyond the proposed uses outlined in this revised application shall require further review and approval by the Planning Board.*
 4. *Submission of an operation and maintenance plan satisfactory to the Town Engineer which will address any increase in traffic causing sediment runoff into the rain garden.*
 5. *Execution of a developer's agreement with the Town of Newmarket and payment of any bonding requirements for restoration of temporary impacts.*
 6. *The payment of any applicable impact fees.*
- Regarding vesting (RSA674-39, Phase I to be completed within one year from recording of the final site plan, including the stabilization of slopes for Phase II. Phase II shall be completed within one year from the start of construction and that start date to be no later than 24 months from completion of Phase I."*

Jeff also reported on a hearing last month for an application for Design Review, requested by Bingham Junction LLC/Shawn McGowan, for the renovation of the Rockingham Junction rail depot to include the relocation of the existing building to a new foundation on the existing site. The use of the building will for be the owner's professional office space. The work is focused on software engineering, software investing, and advanced data analytics. A small addition to the structure and a storage barn will be added. The property is located at 3 Rockingham Junction, Tax Map R3, Lot 13A, B1 Zone.

There was also further discussion of the status of the Class A Trail designation for the Class VI Road portion of Neal Mill Road. The Town Manager has told both the PB and TC that the decision is still awaiting the Town Attorney. **Ellen** added that she thought that SELT wanted to wait for the change to Class A until after all of their deed work was complete.

Ellen mentioned that the lot on Grant Road where the ConCom approved a small area of wetland encroachment has begun clearing the lot for the septic tank and home. In addition, **Ellen** mentioned that a few years ago she had discussions with Diane Hardy about updating the Prime Wetland Maps. Mark West worked on them last time. **Ellen** has asked Bart to look into the updating if there are changes in the State rules vs. the Town rules.

Autumn Event: **Cris Blackstone** reported on the ideas going forward for the fall event. She suggested that we might have a three person planning group work toward October 15 in the Town Hall Auditorium space with tech help as a tentative date.

8. Old/New Business:

Heron Point Project: **Ellen** reported that the two dead trees at the entrance to Heron Point have been removed safely. She is currently working with graphic designer Catherine Arakelian (who has worked a great deal with the SELT) on the signage for the kiosk. Both **Melissa Sharples** and **Melissa Brogle** suggest that the ConCom work toward consistency on all properties. They plan to take a look at all of the kiosks for uniformity in messaging. It is expected that Scout Amy Benson will be working at Heron Point in May and **Ellen** will supervise.

Schanda Park Accessibility: A request has come before the ConCom from the group Northeast Passage at UNH for an accessible porta potty at the park. Members discussed space issues and whether or not the Rec Dept. will fund it. During the meeting, Aimee Gigandet texted **Cris** that she will cover the cost of the accessible portable toilet for July and August at Schanda Park if it fits. **Melissa Brogle** will find out who to speak with about the space issue at Fish & Game. Aimee Gigandet also requested to reserve the park for July 5- August 23 with August 30 as a rain

date for the “Arts in the Park” concerts from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm (or until dark). These concerts are open to the public and free.

Action

Motion: **Melissa Sharples** moved to approve the use of Schanda Park for the annual “Arts in the Park” concerts organized by the Recreation Department for Tuesday July 5 to August 23 with August 30 as a rain date from 5-9PM.

Second: **Melissa Brogle**

Discussion: None

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

Wiggin Farm Invasive Volunteer Day: **Ellen Snyder** outlined plans for an invasive volunteer work day at Wiggin Farm. It was agreed to set the date for Saturday, May 14 from 9:00 to 11:30 or 12:00. **Ellen** will get the tools from the SELT and will work with members to get the word out through Nature Groupie and our ConCom social media.

Earth Day Clean-up: **Melissa Brogle** spoke about the signup is behind from last year. Fifteen people have signed up so far along with a group of Girl Scouts and a group of UNH students. We have a wonderful collaboration with Iron Goat [Junk Removal & Hauling | Newmarket, Portsmouth, Dover, NH | Iron Goat Equipment](#) to take away large pieces of trash found. The Town has provided us with blue bags to distribute to folks and the Transfer Station will gladly take them without fee. The dates will be April 17-24.

Upcoming Events and Guest Speakers: **Cris Blackstone** reported on an exciting event called ‘Rec Connect’ on May 26 from 5-7PM to be held upstairs at the Stone Church. [Rec Connect Recognition Program at the May Mixer \(newmarketrec.org\)](#)

Cris has guest speakers for the next three months. May: Joshua Megyesy from the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program of NH Fish & Game – expert on turtles. June: Matt Larkin, District Conservationist at USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in Rockingham Co. July: Natch Greyes, expert on carnivorous plants and wetlands. **Cris** would like input on future topics.

May 8 will be the LRAC and Fish & Game ‘Herring Aid’ at the Macallen Dam. Help the herring move up the Lamprey River

Melissa Sharples will contact Steve Fournier and cc: Rick Malasky about putting up the turtle crossing signs.

The Newmarket Library would like to have an event, ‘Wildlife Encounters’, at Schoppmeyer Park. The ConCom does not control the use of Schoppmeyer Park. **Cris** will let the Library know that they should contact both Steve Fournier and the Community Church to seek permission.

9. Adjourn

Action

Motion: Ellen Snyder moved to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Melissa Sharples
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimously Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.
The next meeting will be held on May 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM
in the Town Hall Auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Frick, Recording Secretary

DRAFT



**TOWN OF NEWMARKET, NEW HAMPSHIRE
By the Newmarket Town Council**

Resolution #2021/2022 - 31

Reclassifying the Class VI Portion of Neal Mill Road to a Class A Trail

WHEREAS: The Newmarket Conservation Commission in a letter dated May 13, 2021, has recommended that a certain portion of Neal Mill Road be reclassified from a Class VI Road to a Class A trail, and

WHEREAS: The Newmarket Conservation Commission feels that the Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road and the abutting properties are in one of the most ecologically significant areas in Newmarket, and

WHEREAS: A class A trail shall be a full public right-of-way, subject to public trail use restrictions. It shall not have the status of a publicly approved street and shall not be used as a vehicular access for any new building or structure, or for the expansion, enlargement, or increased intensity of use of any existing building or structure. It may, however, be used by the owners of land abutting on such trail, or land served exclusively by such trail, to provide access for such nondevelopment uses as agriculture and forestry, or for access to any building or structure existing prior to its designation as a trail

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NEWMARKET TOWN COUNCIL THAT:

The Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road is hereby reclassified as a Class A trail, pursuant to RSA 231-A.

First Reading: May 4, 2022

Second Reading: May 18, 2022

Approval: May 18, 2022

VOTING RECORD			
Date of Vote:	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Vice chair Conley			
Councilor Ward			
Councilor Blackstone			
Councilor Brabec			
Councilor LaMattina			
Councilor White			
Chair Weinstein			
Total Votes:			
Resolution: Does Does Not pass.			

Approved: _____
Toni Weinstein, Chair Town Council

A True Copy Attest: _____
Terri Littlefield, Town Clerk

Date: May 13, 2021

To: Newmarket Town Council

CC: Diane Hardy, Newmarket Town Planner

From: Newmarket Conservation Commission

Re: Building Permit Request off Class VI Neal Mill Road (Tax Map R7 Lot 1; 75 Neal Mill Road)

A prospective buyer of a privately owned parcel of land off the Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road is asking for approval to build a driveway over 700+ feet of the Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road to reach a property where they want to build a single-family home. The Plan was presented to the Planning Board on February 9, 2021. At that meeting, the Planning requested a public hearing and site walk for March/April. At subsequent meetings in March, April, and May, the Planning Board discussed their process and received input from interested parties, but did not schedule a site walk, did not discuss the issues raised by abutters and the public, and did not request additional information. The Planning Board has now sent this building permit request back to the Town Council without any new information provided by the applicant.

The Conservation Commission is providing the following comments and recommendations to the Town Council as part of our role under RSA 36-A "...for the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources..." in Newmarket. We feel it is imperative that we provide this guidance given the significant ecological, cultural, drinking water, and recreational resources that exist in this location. In addition, the Town holds interest in land that abuts this proposed project (the Silverman and Schmeer conservation easements), for which the Town has a responsibility to ensure those interests are not impacted by this proposal.

The limited amount of detail provided thus far by the applicant is not sufficient to assess the potential for extensive negative impacts on community resources. Many issues have yet to be addressed, including:

- An engineered grading plan for the driveway across the Class VI Road, which is a public way, to show drainage, tree removal, grading, material removal, tread surface, and related issues. This is particularly important because the Town holds easements on the abutting land along the Class VI Road.
- How will recreational access across this public way be accommodated, given that it has become a significant recreational trailhead for year-round public access.
- How will off-road vehicles be controlled from accessing the trail network in this region.
- How will the ecologically significant Piscassic River and associated prime wetlands be protected in perpetuity, not just by this landowner, but future owners of this property. The current applicant cannot guarantee what future owners might do. This location is also just upstream of the Town's Tucker Well.

We provide the following documentation to highlight the potential impact to our community from this current proposal.

Newmarket Master Plan (2001)

The Vision Statement contains the following statements:

- *New development is focused in areas that already have infrastructure and is intelligently designed to reduce negative environmental impacts to the Great Bay and surrounding watershed.*
- *Newmarket's valuable natural resources and open spaces are well protected and offer outdoor enthusiasts a variety of water and land-based recreational opportunities.*

Newmarket's Vision for the Future includes the following statements:

- *Newmarket's valuable natural resources continue to support a variety of habitats and crucial ecosystems that play an essential role in the environmental health and long-term sustainability of the Great Bay estuary.*
- *Newmarket continues substantial efforts to preserve natural resources in a thoughtful manner through conservation and the promotion of compatible infill development.*
- *Newmarket's residents enjoy outstanding water and land-based recreational resources. Newmarket is a destination site for outdoor enthusiasts visiting the Seacoast. Visitors enjoy walking trails, use the playing fields and other recreation facilities, along with conservation lands and open space.*

The Water Resources Chapter contains the following:

- *The protection and use of water resources are critical concerns to the Town of Newmarket. With virtually all residents dependent upon wells for domestic use, the quantity and quality of available groundwater must be protected from depletion and contamination. Other Town water resources, such as swamps, ponds, streams, and wetlands are important because they are hydrologically related to groundwater, and provide ecological, scenic, and recreational value to residents. In general, there is a direct relationship between land use and water quality. It is the responsibility of the Town to take reasonable and prudent precautions to protect all water resources from incompatible uses, thus protecting the health and general welfare of the community. Appropriate steps should be taken by the Town to ensure that enough water supply exists for use by Newmarket residents, as well as native wildlife and plant communities. The Town needs to examine and address water supply issues, watershed management, pollution, and potential aquifers/gravel areas.*
- *One of the objectives in this chapter is: Direct development to environmentally suitable areas*

Open Space Chapter:

The Town adopted the 2007 Open Space Plan as a Chapter in the Master Plan. The Open Space Plan identifies the Piscassic River corridor in this region as one of six priority areas for conservation in Newmarket. The following features are highlighted in the Plan: *The Piscassic River corridor contains a diversity of natural communities, rare plants, and high quality wildlife habitat and is relatively intact considering the pace of development in the region. This area is especially significant to wildlife because of the mosaic of open fields, beaver-influenced ponds and wetlands interspersed with intact river corridor, vernal pools, floodplains, and upland forest.*

Summary:

⇒ The Master Plan guides community decision-making. Based on the vision and statements in the Master Plan, it is clear that the proposed home construction on the Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road is within a highly significant region of Newmarket. The Master Plan documents this region as important to our community for conserving and protecting critical resources and not as a site for expanded development. This is not "infill" development, but rather "scattered" development, given the proposal for a 700+ foot driveway down a Class VI Road into an unfragmented, ecologically and recreationally significant region.

Silverman and Schmeer Conservation Easements

The Town of Newmarket holds the “Silverman” and “Schmeer” conservation easements on the properties as shown on the attached map. The current owners of these properties are Joffree Barnett (“Silverman Easement”) and Jean Silverman (“Schmeer Easement”), respectively. As you can see, these properties have significant frontage on the Class VI Road, which will be impacted by the proposed development. The Conservation Commission is responsible for the annual monitoring of these easements and ensuring that there are no violations of the easement deed by the landowner or by a third party.

These conservation easements were acquired with funding from the Newmarket Public Water Supply Land Protection Fund and from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) funding. In addition to the Conservation Easement deed provisions, the Town of Newmarket signed a grant agreement for both the Silverman and Schmeer easements with the USFWS “to ensure the long-term conservation of the Property” and which requires “obtaining the consent of the USFWS prior to the transfer of Easements (or any interest therein, together or individually) to anyone other than a member of the GBRPP.” [GBRPP=Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership]

⇒ Summary:

The conservation easements and the grant agreements underscore the significance of these properties and the Town’s role in protecting those values. The current application (lack of a proper engineering plan) before the Town Council for a driveway across the Class VI Road is not sufficient to determine if there will be impacts to these properties.

Other Conservation Lands

The Silverman and Schmeer conservation easements are part of a large network of conserved lands in this area, most of which are part of the Piscassic Greenway, which is owned and managed by the Southeast Land Trust of NH (SELT). The Towns of Newmarket and Newfields are important partners of SELT; both communities have provided funding to help conserve some of these lands. In 2020, the Newmarket Conservation Commission contributed \$100,000 from the Conservation Fund to help conserve the “Tucker Tract II” (the northerly parcel), which added another 16.11 acres to the Piscassic Greenway. In addition, the Town of Newmarket acquired other nearby land for a new drinking water well.

⇒ Summary:

The Town has contributed significant financial resources to protect lands in this region, because of its importance to protecting drinking water, wetlands, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. A proposed single-family home, 700+ foot-driveway, and associated impacts that would degrade or cause future harm to these values must be considered as part of decision-making. If permitted, these impacts are in perpetuity.

Class VI Neal Mill Road, Halls Mill Road, and Old Lee Road

The Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road in Newmarket extends from the gate to the Town boundary with Newfields. This stretch of Neal Mill Road is historic, very scenic--bounded by stone walls and large trees, and serves as a popular year-round trail for hiking, mountain biking, skiing, snowshoeing, running, dog walking, and nature observation. Due to the increasing popularity of recreational access to the Piscassic Greenway via Neal Mill Road, in 2020, the Town of Newmarket created parking spaces along the Class V portion of the road. The Class VI Neal Mill Road is a significant public recreational resource for our community and the region, offering a unique experience as it lies in one of the most remote and undeveloped areas of Newmarket. Although not officially designated as such, it has the features of a "scenic road" and a "trail."

From the Newfields side, the same road is called Halls Mill Road. At the Newfields Town Meeting on March 12, 2019, voters approved two warrant articles that reclassified the Class VI portions of Halls Mill Road and Old Lee Road as Class A Trails. Those warrant articles passed 365-75 and 365-77, respectively. These trail designations further highlight the recreational significance of the Neal Mill/Halls Mill region.

Neal Mill Road (starting at the gate) is a significant recreational resource and serves as one of the major trailheads into the Piscassic Greenway. Old Lee Road also brings recreationists onto this section of Neal Mill Road, adding to the importance of Neal Mill Road as a major recreational trail. The Old Lee and Neal Mill Class VI Roads are also used by snowmobilers in winter. A driveway across Neal Mill Road that is plowed in winter would impact all of these winter activities.

Ecological Significance of this Location

The Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road and the abutting properties are in one of the most ecologically significant areas in Newmarket:

The property at 75 Neal Mill Road lies entirely within the Lower Piscassic River Conservation Focus Area as identified in the Land Conservation Plan for New Hampshire's Coastal Watersheds (Zankel et al. 2006). See http://www.nhep.unh.edu/resources/pdf/the_land_conservation-tnc-06.pdf

The property at 75 Neal Mill Road lies entirely within a "prioritized habitat block," one of the places identified across New Hampshire's coastal watershed that will maintain opportunities for wildlife to move across the landscape, both now and into the future (Connect the Coast, Steckler and Brickner-Wood 2019). See <https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/nh-connect-the-coast-report.pdf> and <https://tnc.app.box.com/s/d3er3w64bbo46y7dojtdzw1fly30obqh>

The Newmarket Open Space Plan identified this region as a Priority Area for Conservation (Snyder 2007). See http://www.nhep.unh.edu/resources/pdf/newmarket_open_space-ibc-07.pdf. The Planning Board adopted the Open Space Plan as an amendment (Chapter 2) to the Newmarket Master Plan on May 15, 2007. See <https://www.newmarketnh.gov/planning-board/pages/newmarket-master-plan>

The property at 75 Neal Mill Road includes 1,700 feet of frontage on the Piscassic River, a prime wetland as designated by the Town of Newmarket. See

https://www.newmarketnh.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3536/f/u101/prime_wetlands_map4.pdf

In addition to the prime wetlands, a report dated March 22, 2006 from West Environmental Inc that was commissioned by the Town evaluated and mapped wetlands on land along Neal Mill Road as part of the

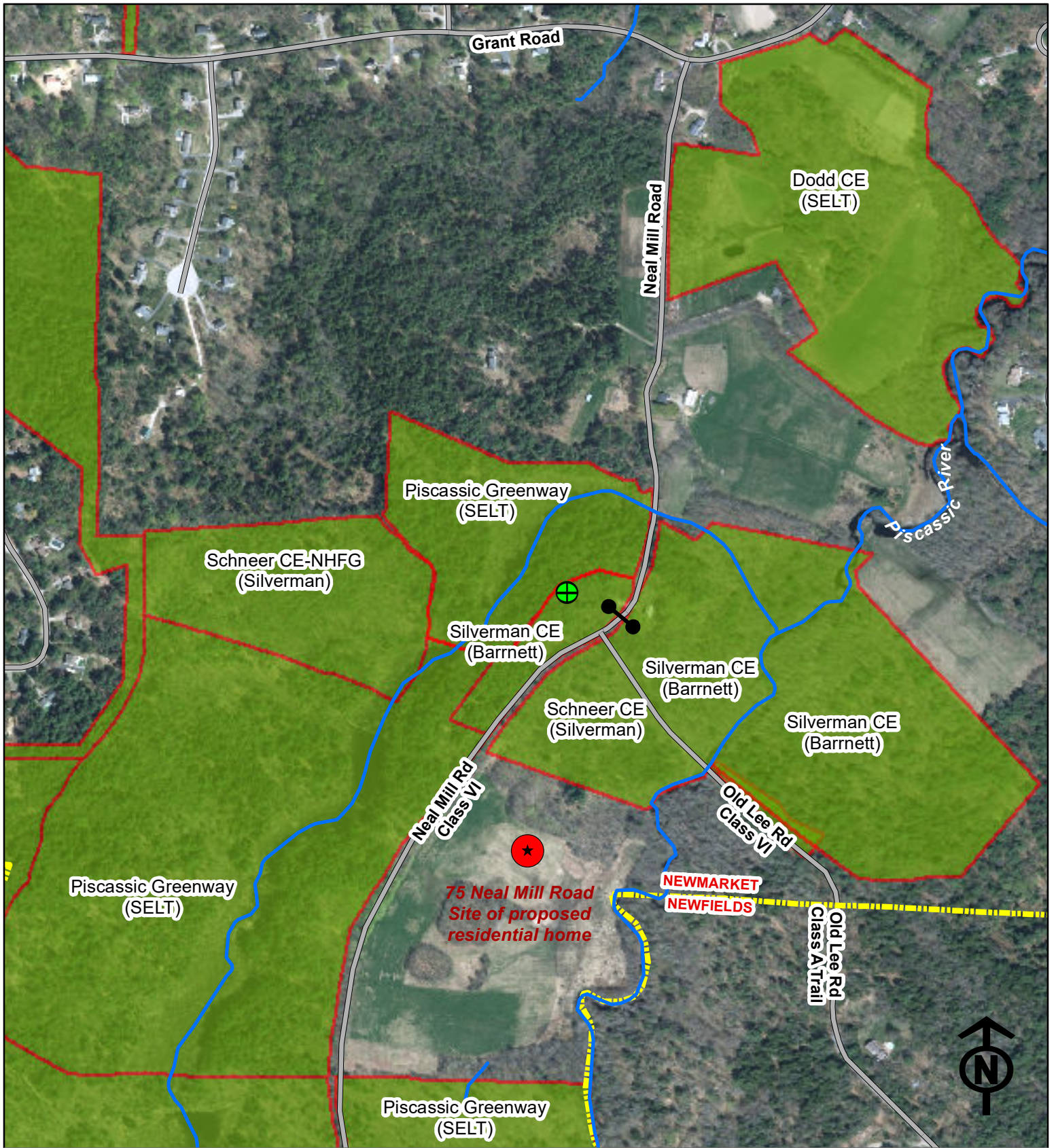
town's search for drinking water supplies. The property at 75 Neal Mill Road was included and additional wetlands were mapped.

In conclusion,

Given the significance of this region (as described above) to the Town of Newmarket, the designation by the Town of Newfields of Class A Trails, and the lack of sufficient information from the applicant to assess potential for negative impacts to Town resources, we recommend that the Town of Newmarket deny this permit request and instead pursue designation of the Class VI portion of Neal Mill Road as a Class A Trail.

Respectfully Submitted by the Newmarket Conservation Commission:


David Bell
Cris Blackstone
Samuel Kenny
Patrick Reynolds
Melissa Sharples
Ellen Snyder
Jeff Goldknopf (Planning Board Representative)
Melissa Brogle (Alternate)
Megan Brabec (Town Council Ex-Officio)



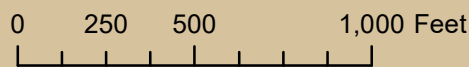
 Conservation Land

 Roads

 Streams

 Cemetery

 Gate



Conservation Land Neal Mill Road Newmarket, NH

Boundaries and features are approximate. Feb 2021

**Town of Newmarket, New Hampshire
Conservation Commission -- Conservation Fund (4May2022)**

Items (date of motion)	Date of Debit, Revenue, or Balance	Conservation Commission Fund	Richard Schanda Fund	TOTAL
	7/1/21	\$166,723.60	\$4,764.46	\$171,488.06
	9/9/21	\$166,546.62	\$4,764.46	\$171,311.08
	10/5/21	\$162,443.87	\$4,764.46	\$167,208.33
	11/8/21	\$160,461.65	\$4,764.46	\$165,226.11
	12/16/21	\$160,982.02	\$4,764.46	\$165,746.48
	1/5/22	\$158,892.98	\$4,764.46	\$163,657.44
	2/7/22	\$158,919.49	\$4,764.46	\$163,683.95
	3/9/22	\$158,923.17	\$4,764.46	\$163,687.63
	4/11/22	\$157,938.66	\$4,764.46	\$162,703.12
	5/4/22	\$160,955.10	\$4,764.46	\$165,719.56
CREDITS				
Interest	7/31/21	\$31.54		
	8/31/21	\$32.86		
	9/30/21	27.25		
	10/31/21	\$17.78		
	11/30/21	\$19.37		
	12/31/21	\$30.64		
	1/31/22	\$26.51		
	3/1/22	\$3.68		
	3/31/22	\$15.49		
	4/30/22	\$16.44		
Other Contributions				
LRAC grant for Heron Point Sanctuary (half of grant)	4/11/22	\$2,500.00		
LCHIP for easement monitoring	4/13/22	\$500.00		

**Town of Newmarket, New Hampshire
Conservation Commission -- Conservation Fund (4May2022)**

Items (date of motion)	Date of Debit, Revenue, or Balance	Conservation Commission Fund	Richard Schanda Fund	TOTAL
DEBITS this FY				
Wiggin Farm interpretive signs (5/13/21)	8/4/21	\$160.00		
Wiggin Farm bridge repairs supplies (7/8/21)	7/15/21	\$54.10		
Wiggin Farm sign posts (5/13/2021) (\$7.74, \$19.54)	7/15 and 8/12/2021	\$27.28		
Martin Forestry - Heron Pt Mgmt Plan (10/15/20)	9/14/21	\$2,500.00		
Heron Point Hazard tree removal (Martin) (8/12/21)	9/21/21	\$1,500.00		
Wiggin Farm interpretive signs (5/13/21)	9/21/21	\$130.00		
Newmarket HS student scholarship (7/8/21)	10/19/21	\$1,500.00		
Piscassic Loiselle white pine felling (Orion Tree Service)	12/30/21	\$1,000.00		
Lead volunter work day at HP - Greg Disanto (9/9/21)	12/16/21	\$550.00		
Piscassic Loiselle fence railing (11/18/21)	12/13/21	\$180.00		
Heron Point: trail markers and nails (11/18/21)	12/13/21	\$389.68		
Heron Point tree removal (LRAC grant)	3/23/22	\$1,000.00		
SUBTOTAL		\$8,991.06		
Approved to be spent:				
SELT - Gaziano acquisition (8/17/21)		\$75,000.00		
Heron Point kiosk trail map (Martin Forestry) (11/18/21)		\$700.00		
Heron Point kiosk sign printing (12/18/21)		\$250.00		
Heron Point: trail closure signs - printing (12/18/21)		\$200.00		
Wiggin Farm invasive plant control RCCD (2/10/22)		\$3,190.00		
SUBTOTAL		\$79,340.00		
New requests to be voted on:				

Newmarket Fishing Derby

5/12/22

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Newmarket Conservation Commission Funds						
2	FY21-22		General Fund: 014611				
3	General Fund Budget		\$2,900.00				
4		Date of motion or debit	Part-Time Salary	Contracted	Dues/ Subscriptions	General Supplies	Postage
5	BUDGETED		\$2,000.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
6	EXPENDED		\$1,845.82	\$299.91	\$400.00	\$243.24	
7	BALANCE (4May2022)		\$154.18	\$0.09	\$0.00	-\$43.24	\$0.00
8	General Fund balance (4May2022)		\$111.03				
9	credit to account	7/15/21	-4.16				
10	Part-time salary	7/15/21	153.83				
11	Part-time salary, recording secretary	7/29/21	99.78				
12	Part-time salary, recording secretary	8/12/21	170.46				
13	Part-time salary, recording secretary	8/26/21	78.99				
14	Part-time salary, recording secretary	9/9/21	20.79				
15	Part-time salary, recording secretary	9/23/21	523.63				
16	Part-time salary, recording secretary	10/7/21	124.19				
17	credit to account	10/18/21	-14.18				
18	credit to account	10/18/21	-458.23				
19	credit to account	10/18/21	-99.78				
20	Part-time salary, recording secretary	10/21/21	167.02				
21	Part-time salary, recording secretary	11/4/21	175.58				
22	Part-time salary, recording secretary	11/18/21	55.67				
23	NHACC annual dues	11/9/21			\$400.00	\$100.00	
24	Part-time salary, recording secretary	12/2/21	162.74				
25	Part-time salary, recording secretary	1/13/22	4.28				
26	Part-time salary, recording secretary	1/27/22	141.32				
27	SELT easement monitoring	1/13/22		\$299.91			
28	Part-time salary, recording secretary	2/10/22	68.52				
29	Part-time salary, recording secretary	2/24/22	42.83				
30	Part-time salary, recording secretary	3/24/22	179.87				
31	Supplies for filing - folders	4/11/22				\$43.24	
32	Part-time salary, recording secretary	4/21/22	252.67				
33							
34	Approved to be spent						
35	Supplies for recording secretary	10/14/21				\$100.00	