

1 **Conservation Commission**

2 Minutes of Meeting Thursday, March 12, 2026

3
4 **Members Present:** Kelly Short, Audra Klumb, Steve Seron, Lance Messinger, Bob Steenson,
5 Theresa Wyman, Beth Blair (BOS Rep); Ken Stern via video

6 **Members Absent:** Charlie Comey

7 **Guest(s):** none

8 **Meeting called to Order 7:06pm**

9 **Agenda Item 1. Review and approve minutes of February 2026 meeting.**

10 Motion to accept the minutes of February 12, 2026 by Steve. Second by Audra. One
11 correction, item 5, it is TD Bank, not Citizen's Bank that would administer LUCT
12 investments. All in favor of the minutes as amended.

13 **Agenda Item 2: Permits**

14 No permit applications received.

15 **Agenda Item 3. Summary of Voting on Warrant Articles**

- 16
- 17 • General discussion of zoning warrant articles.
 - 18 • Note made to send a future request to the Planning Board to amend the Wetland
19 Setback Ordinance next year to correct the text error extending the exemption for
20 wetlands smaller than 2000 square feet to Vernal Pools. All vernal pools should be
21 protected as a valuable resource and the original draft of the ordinance did not exempt
22 those below this threshold as most vernal pools are smaller than 2000 square feet in
size.
 - 23 • The CCC discussed the implementation and enforcement of this ordinance. Audra
24 and Bob will schedule a meeting with the Code Enforcement Officer and Town
25 Administrator to the process for residential permitting and to offer any training or other
26 practical assistance from the CCC they might find valuable.

27 **Agenda Item 4: LUCT Fund Investment**

- 28
- 29 • The investment discussed at the last meeting has been implemented. \$300,000 of
30 LUCT funds are invested rolling CD ladders, leaving approximately \$100,000 readily
available should sudden conservation opportunities arise.

31

- 32 • It has been confirmed that all interest from the LUCT CDs accrues to the Land Use
33 Change Tax fund and not the General Fund.

34 **Agenda Item 5: NH House Bill 1691 – Current Use Limitations**

35 Voted ITL – inexpedient to legislate. This effectively kills the bill for this legislative session.

36 **Agenda Item 6: Elect Officers for 2026**

- 37 • The proposed slate of officers:
- 38 ○ Kelly Short, Chair
- 39 ○ Audra Klumb, Vice Chair
- 40 ○ Bob Steenson, Treasurer
- 41 • Motion to accept the proposed slate of Officers by Steve. Second by Theresa. All in
42 Favor. None opposed.
- 43
- 44 • Secretarial duties will continue to be performed by members on a rotating basis.
- 45

46 **Agenda Item 6a: Member Re-appointments**

47 Lance, Kelly and Bob's terms expire in 2026. Each desires to serve another term.

- 48 • Motion to reappoint Kelly Short, Lance Messenger and Bob Steenson by Steve.
49 Second by Audra. All in favor.
- 50 • Kelly will so communicate the appointments to the Selectmen's Office. Upon approval
51 and signature of the appointment slips by the Selectmen, the members will need to be
52 sworn in by the Town Clerk.

53 **Agenda Item 7: Property Management**

54 2026 initial work plan:

- 55 • Kelly to price professional invasive removal at the Kinter Garden area of the Fife
56 Conservation Area.
- 57 • Bob to remove the 3 small apple trees in the northeast corner of the Fife Conservation
58 area to facilitate mowing. Bob will circulate a note to the CCC when he intends to do
59 the work to see if anyone wants to assist.
- 60 • Cutting and clean up along the stone wall at the roadway is scheduled May 1 at
61 9:00am.
- 62 ○ Brief discussion ensued regarding the disposition and disposal of the cuttings
63 to avoid creating brush piles that will interfere with mowing.

64 **Agenda Item 8: Conservation Outreach**

- 65 • The CCC discussed landowner outreach and differential approaches to the amount of
66 LUCT funds the CCC would be willing to apply to easements with public access vs.
67 those without public access.
- 68 • The CCC further discussed the status of the various land trusts and the impact on
69 easement monitoring requirements should the town accept easements without a land
70 trust partner.
- 71 • The CCC will investigate the process and advantages of forming a Land Stewardship
72 Trust as outlined in RSA-36A as a potential means to address future monitoring
73 requirements.

74 **Agenda Item 9: NH Fish and Game Wildlife Action Plan**

75 Ken updated the CCC on the upgrades to the plan in the form of improved data from
76 technological investment. Wildlife mapping is improved as is the imagery on Class VI
77 and woods roads.

78 New drafts of Canterbury co-occurrence maps using the upgraded data and showing
79 newly conserved areas are forthcoming.

80 **Agenda Item 10: TMDL Plan for New Pond**

81 Not taken up.

82 **Agenda Item 11: Other business**

83 The City of Concord Conservation Commission reached out seeking a mutual discussion
84 of common interests and collaboration. Ken will follow up.

85 Discussion of town forest management plan updates requested by DES. Kelly will
86 respond.

87 DES has generated a floodplain survey to assess climate resilience. Kelly will forward to
88 CCC members, town boards and the town administrator.

89

90 Motion to Adjourn 8:31pm. All in favor.

91 Next meeting April 9.

92 Respectfully submitted, Bob Steenson