

**Franklin Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda
March 10, 2020
City Hall Basement – 7:30 pm**

Call to Order

- Approval of the January 14, 2020 meeting minutes

Old Business

- NH BioBlitz Program Update

New Business

- UMLAC Update
- NHACC Legislative Update
- NHACC Annual Survey

Other Business

Adjournment

FRANKLIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2020

Present: Nita Tomaszewski, Mike Mullavey (by phone), Roy Gilbreth (by phone), Glenn Morrill, Timothy Stangroom, Bob Morin

Next meeting: February 11, 2019 - 7:30 pm, City Hall Basement

Meeting called to order by Nita at 7:33 pm

Minutes of the November 12, 2019 meeting were distributed for review. Roy moved and Glenn seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passed with Tim abstaining because he was not a Commissioner at the time of the meeting.

Selection of 2020 Conservation Commission Officers - Roy moved and Mike seconded the motion that the current slate of officers be maintained for 2020. Nita will serve as Chair and Bob will serve as Secretary.

I Old Business

The Commission reviewed the following documents:

- Expected upgrades to powerlines located in Montgomery Road Forest by Eversource – Franklin ZBA Application for Appeal from Stantec for Eversource. No action required.
- DES Wetlands Permit Application 2019-02240, Tax Map 147, Lots 51 and 404 – Response to request for more information. No action required.

NH BioBlitz Program Update – Bob briefed the Commission on plans for implementing the BioBlitz program. He explained that representatives from UNH Cooperative Extension service will come to Franklin on January 29th for discussions on how best to plan for the event.

II New Business

Franklin Falls Flood Control Area Timber Stand Improvement – The Commission was informed by a letter from the New Hampshire Division of Forest and Lands regarding a non-commercial timber stand improvement project at the Franklin Falls Flood Control are. Not action required.

III Other Business

City Composting Program – Bob briefed the Commission on his conversation with the City Manager regarding a proposed city composting program.

The Commission reviewed 2 sets of document regarding that were received from the Department of Planning and Zoning and that had not been previously shared with the Commission. The documents covered the Montgomery Road transmission line structures and the Solar Power Project off Sanborn Street.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

MEETING AGENDA

March 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Elkins Public Library, 9 Center Road, Canterbury, NH

Consent agenda

- A. Approve February 10, 2020 meeting summary*
- B. The next UMRAC meeting is proposed for April 13 in Concord: representative(s) will provide to chair the meeting space reservation information no later than a week in advance of the meeting
- C. UMRAC Event and Activity Matrix posted on documents site*

Action agenda

- 1. Membership updates and vote on re-nomination of at-large representatives – everyone (two minutes)
- 2. Review previous meeting action items in table in meeting summary – everyone (two minutes)
- 3. Treasurer's report – Krista Crowell, Treasurer (two minutes)
- 4. Brownfields Advisory Committee – Michael Hansen, UMRAC representative to the BAC (five minutes)
- 5. FERC licensing and re-licensing updates – Gary Lemay, lead (ten minutes)
- 6. Presentations schedule and topics discussion – everyone (ten minutes)
- 7. Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program updates (ten minutes)
- 8. Project proposals review*: new and follow-up on past projects – Steve Landry, discussion lead, with other reviewers (time as required)
- 9. Correspondence and notices – everyone (time as required)
- 10. Other business – all (time as required)
- 11. "Around the Watershed" and emerging issues – everyone (as time allows)
- 12. Upper Merrimack Watershed Association and Turkey River project updates – UMWA directors (five minutes)

*Denotes discussion documents posted at www.MerrimackRiver.org with permit review and other files on www.MerrimackRiver.org/documents/

MerrimackRiver.org

Please call Michele Tremblay, Chair, at 603.796.2615 or email at UMRLAC@MerrimackRiver.org at least 48 hours in advance if you are unable to attend this meeting. As a courtesy to guests, speakers, and other representatives, this notice will allow for the meeting to be rescheduled if a critical mass is not possible or insufficient to justify guests or other representatives to attend the meeting. At any meeting, the UMRAC may enter into non-public session as defined within [RSA 91-A:3](#). Thank you.

New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions - Conservation News and Events

Legislative Update March 2020

Bills to Watch

NHACC Supports these bill in the 2020 legislative session

[SB 491](#) – regarding Shoreland water quality. This bill will increase the natural woodland buffer standard from 25% to 50% on lots larger than one-half acre. This increase will safeguard our public waters and ensure they are sufficiently protected against polluted runoff, while still allowing property owners to easily enjoy shorefront homes, views, and investments, and clean and healthy lakes. **NHACC supports this bill and provided testimony** at committee hearing at the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. This bill was recently amended with language that makes the buffer area hard to calculate. Senate voted ought to pass with an amendment [SB491 Amendment](#).

[HB 1124](#) – This bill seeks to expand what wetlands would qualify for consideration as a “prime wetland,” to include narrow portions with 4 or more primary wetland functions. A prime wetland is designated and voted on at the municipal level and designated by NH Dept. of Environmental Services. This bill is now in the House Resources, Recreation & Development Committee. **NHACC supported this bill last year but it was vetoed by the Governor. We provided written testimony in support of the expanded definition again this year.**

[HB1571](#) Relative to the qualifications for the members of the fish and game commission. Currently, New Hampshire statutes (RSA 206:2) only allows “sporting clubs” to nominate NH Fish and Game Commissioners and requires each nominee to be “an active outdoorsman holding a resident fishing, hunting, or trapping license in at least 5 of the 10 years preceding the appointment”. HB 1571 removes these requirements and will allow other relevant NH organizations to nominate commissioners. Expanding representation will ensure that Fish and Game’s governing body, the Commission, has broader expertise to address the critical issues that face our state regarding wildlife protection, land conservation, and resource management. The House Fish & Game and Marine Resource Committee [amended HB1571](#). **NHACC signed on in support of this bill.**

SB 590 An Act establishing a committee to develop science-based emissions reduction goals for the state of New Hampshire. This bill takes the important step of developing science-based emission reduction goals for New Hampshire, establishing the needed foundation for the state to plan and implement actions to mitigate climate change and its significant consequences for the health of New Hampshire’s environment, people, and economy. This bill is currently in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. **NHACC signed on in support of this bill.**

Other Bills to Watch

[HB 1562](#) Relative to including soil health and soil conservation in the state soil conservation plan. The purpose of this bill is to preserve and improve soil fertility and soil health through soil conservation plans. It proposes amendments to RSA 432:3 to include the language “***and soil health; to promote mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.***” The bill also redefines soil health practices for

Conservation Districts. This bill was referred to the Environment and Agriculture Committee. It was voted ought to pass with [HB 1562 amendment](#).

[HB 1664-FN](#) Establishing a climate Action Plan and an office of the environmental advocate and an oversight commission on environmental services. This bill sets targets to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions. The House voted [Ought to Pass with amendment](#).

LCHIP

Two LCHIP bills have been proposed this session.

SB617 An additional charge of \$25, or a voluntary additional charge, \$35, to fund LCHIP. **This bill was voted inexpedient to legislate.**

[SB493](#) relative to register of deeds fees used to support the land and community heritage investment program (LCHIP), and establishing a committee to study the economic impact of land conservation and to review the LCHIP surcharge. This would increase the LCHIP fee from \$25 to \$35.

Last year the Governor Sununu vetoed a similar bill and will likely do so again. It was suggested that an additional \$500,00 go to LCHIP in the next two-year state budget. Sununu says he will consider this appropriation.

OHRV

[HB1316](#) proposes to open up additional trails to OHRVs in the Nash Stream State Forest as well in Coleman State Park. Legislation know as ride the wilds in committee. This bill was recently [amended to allow ATVS](#) on Hoit Rd Marsh in Concord NH.

Land Use

[HB 1692](#), which would establish a certification process for mushroom foragers seeking to sell foraged mushrooms commercially and includes landowner notification. This bill is supported by SPNHF and TOA and Farm Bureau.

The House Environment and Agriculture Committee has [amended HB1692](#) establishing a license for mushroom harvesters. It has been referred to the Executive Dept. and Administration committee.

[SB487](#) repealing the housing appeals board and establishing a commission to advance affordable housing in New Hampshire. The Senate Committee Election Law and Municipal Affairs voted ITL. It goes to the Senate floor March 5.

Another bill to repeal the housing board is [SB 735](#) . This bill was also voted ITL in committee. It goes to the Senate floor March 5.

Annual Survey 2020

The NHACC is in the process of strategic planning and we would like your feedback. Please discuss these questions at your next conservation commission meeting and fill out this form to return to us as soon as possible. The more feedback we get from members, the more responsive we can be to your needs. Thank you for your time and all that you do for conservation in New Hampshire.

What does NHACC provide that you find helpful? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Newsletters
- ☐ Annual Meeting and Conference
- ☐ Phone conversations with office for help
- ☐ Handbooks
- ☐ Other: eg. Training/Workshops – specify below

Please specify the answer to "Other "

What does NHACC provide that you feel is unnecessary?

- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Annual Meeting and Conference
- ☐ Phone conversation with office for help
- ☐ Handbooks
- ☐ Other: eg. Training/Workshops

Please specify answers to "Other "

NHACC regularly monitors legislation related to conservation on the state level and provides legislative updates for you. Check all that apply.

- ☐ This information is helpful.
- ☐ Our commission reviews the legislative updates at our meetings.
- ☐ We have taken action as a result of the updates.
- ☐ This service is not useful.

What legislative or state priorities would you like NHACC to focus on?

What are the 3 most critical issues facing conservation that we need to respond to over the next 3 years?

Maximum of 200 words. *Currently Used: 0 words.*

What one change or action would have the biggest impact on your commission? Why?

Maximum of 110 words. *Currently Used: 0 words.*

What are you struggling with and could we help you with this?

Maximum of 110 words. *Currently Used: 0 words.*

Do you have any recommendations for new programs or initiatives for NHACC and if so, what are they; include training and/or resources?

Maximum of 200 words. *Currently Used: 0 words.*

Help us keep our Land Use Tax information updated. Does your municipality allocate Land Use Change Tax to the Conservation Fund?

☐ Yes

☐ No

What is the percentage amount of Land Use Change Tax that is allocated to the Conservation Fund ?