

Dublin Conservation Commission
APPROVED¹ MINUTES
12/13/2023
5 PM Town Hall

Members attending: Jay Schechter, June Brening, Katie Featherston, Jerry Branch, John Morris
Invited guest: Nancy Markuson

Minutes from November 8th meeting were approved as written.

Operating Budget – Jay reported balance of \$1,962.15, Land Acquisition Fund \$94,839.74.

Howe Reservoir – Nancy Markuson was invited to tell the commission about her work doing water sampling for Howe Reservoir. She has been doing this since 2010, once per year. She said that the reservoir has similar test results as other lakes/ponds in the region, according to DES reports. She was happy to see that the extended drawdown last year did not seem to adversely affect fishing or water quality this year. She said it might be worth investigating shrub plantings along 101 to filter water running off the roadway.

Advocate – Katie has submitted an article about the Cheshire County Conservation District Opportunity Fund for small landowners (< 25 acres) to get grants to improve habitat.

Open Space – No further update from the town attorney regarding a question about putting a conservation easement on a tax deeded property. Jay suggested planning start soon for any public meeting next year.

Dublin Park – Jay reported that kiosk panels are ready.

Planning Board / Wetlands Overlay District – Jay shared a letter he drafted suggesting a joint committee to update the ordinance. The Commission voted to send the letter to the Planning Board.

Jay reported that the town attorney verified that it is OK to continue depositing leftover Commission budget funding into the Land Acquisition Fund as per the warrant article passed several years ago.

Jay will circulate the “Dublin Conservation Commission Operating Manual” for the commissioners to review. This is a document intended to help describe required and optional activities by the commission.

Jay asked everyone to come to the next meeting with comments on what roles they would like to fill in the 2024 Con Comm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, John Morris, Secretary

¹ The Conservation Commission approved the draft minutes as written at its January 17, 2024 meeting.