



TOWN OF HUDSON

Conservation Commission



Carl Murphy, Vice Chairman

Dave Morin, Selectmen Liaison

12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6008 • Fax: 603-816-1291

DATE: May 11, 2026

MEETING MINUTES: Below is a listing of minutes for the Hudson Conservation Commission. Minutes are not a verbatim record of each meeting, but rather represent a summary of the discussion and actions taken at the meeting. All Conservation Commission meetings are televised live and repeated during the following week on HCTV, cable television channel 22. Official copies of the minutes are available to read and copy at the Town Engineer's Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.).

Should you have any questions concerning these minutes or wish to see the original recording, please contact the Town Engineer's Office at 603-886-6008.

In attendance = X Alternates Seated = S Partial Attendance = P Excused Absence = E

Carl Murphy Chairman <u> E </u>	Ken Dickinson Vice-Chair <u> X </u>	Christopher Cameron Clerk <u> X </u>	John Walter Member <u> X </u>
Kathy Griswold Member <u> X </u>	Patricia Keller Alternate Member <u> X </u>	Dillon Dumon Selectman Liaison <u> X </u>	Don Kirkland Engineer <u> X </u>

CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON AT	7:02 P.M.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Mr. Dickinson
ROLL CALL	Mr. Cameron
SEATING OF ALTERNATES:	None seated
PUBLIC INPUT RELATED TO NON-AGENDA ITEMS:	7:03 P.M. – None

Motion:

Ms. Griswold made a motion, seconded by Mr. Walter, to go out of the regular order of business to continue the Conditional Use Permit application for LeClair Drive Extension, 12 LeClair Drive, Hudson, NH; Map 147, Lot 6. Discussion: None. Motion: carried 5 / 0 / 0.

I. Old Business

a. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Application: LeClair Drive Extension, 12 LeClair Drive, Hudson, NH; Map 147, Lot 006-000 – Residential subdivision (7-lot)

The applicant's representative, Sam Foisie, of Meridian Land Services, Inc., presented a brief update on the Conditional Use Permit application for the proposed seven (7) lot single-family residential subdivision at 12 LeClair Drive on the currently-developed single-family residential lot. The applicant's representative briefly recapped the site walk on 4/27/2026 and the history of the site, re-iterating that the wetland buffer currently consists primarily of maintained lawn and that much of the area of the buffer proposed to be impacted would be returned to natural vegetation under the proposed plan, with the total area of wetland buffer to be restored to a natural state amounting to over one-half (0.5) acre. Additionally the areas of proposed permanent wetland and wetland buffer impacts increased slightly from 450 square-feet (SF) to 580 SF and from 11,500 SF to 13,155 SF, respectively, while the temporary wetland buffer impacts decreased from 1,800 SF to 1,503 SF. It was noted that the proposed seed mix for the wetland buffer areas to be restored is to be specified as "New England Conservation Wildlife Mix" from New England Wetland Plants, Inc.

Motion to "Recommend":

Mr. Dickinson moved to recommend a favorable acceptance by the Hudson Planning Board of the Conditional Use Permit application filed by representatives of MR Lacassee Homes, LLC, reference Tax Map 147, Lot 6, dated March 2, 2026, revised May 11, 2026. After application review, the Hudson Conservation Commission finds that the uses presented by the applicant, along with the proposed culvert head walls and associated site grading and drainage piping, comply with Town of Hudson Zoning Ordinance 334, Article IX- Wetland Conservation Overlay District, paragraphs 334-36(C) 2 through 4, and 334-37. This favorable acceptance is contingent upon Planning Board approval of the proposed subdivision plan along with the recommendations and stipulations listed below:

General recommendations by the Hudson Conservation Commission to the Planning Board:

1. A stipulation and/or note should be added to the plan(s) that states: "During construction and restoration erosion control barriers shall be installed and maintained, to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer, along the limits of disturbance within, and/or adjacent to, any wetland(s) and/or wetland buffer(s)."
2. A stipulation and/or note should be added to the plan(s) that states: "Construction vehicles (non-refueling vehicles) shall not be parked within fifty (50) feet of any wetland overnight".
3. A stipulation and/or note should be added to the plan(s) that states: "Refueling vehicles shall not be parked overnight or left unattended within fifty (50) feet of any wetland".
4. A stipulation and/or note should be added to the plan(s) that states: "Stockpiling of construction materials is not allowed within the wetland or wetland buffer areas of the site or in areas designated for permanent conservation".

5. It is recommended that the applicant install approved “Do Not Cut/Do Not Disturb” town conservation markers along the conservation districts boundaries (fifty (50) foot wetland buffer).
6. A stipulation and/or note should be added to the plan(s) that states: "Any vegetation associated with post-construction BMPs and slope restoration including storm water management area shall be suitably established to withstand erosion and shall be inspected by the Town Engineer and the property owner shall be required to provide a suitable replacement for any vegetation not suitably established during the relevant monitoring period."
7. A stipulation and/or note should be added to the plan(s) that states: "Fertilizers utilized for landscaping and lawn care shall be slow release, low-nitrogen types (<5%), and shall not be used within fifty (50) feet of wetland resource areas. Pesticides and herbicides shall not be used within fifty (50) feet of a wetland resource area."
8. It is recommended to specify native shrub plantings along proposed slopes facing the wetlands. Species to be selected shall be salt-tolerant and appropriate for the respective slopes.

*This motion is based on the plan(s) submitted by the applicant. It is recommended that if changes are made to the plan(s) that result in additional impacts to the wetland and/or wetland buffer area(s), the plan(s) be resubmitted to the Conservation Commission for further review.

Motion seconded by:

Mr. Cameron

Motion X carried or ___ failed (check one). Vote count: 5 / 0 / 0 (yea / nay / abstain).

II. New Business

a. New Alternate Member

Members welcomed the newly-appointed alternate member, Patricia Keller, to the Commission.

b. NHDOT Circumferential Hwy Parcels – LCHIP Grant

Discussion took place on the proposed application for the Land & Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) grant program for the potential purchase of one of the abandoned Circumferential Hwy parcels for sale at 121-R Wason Rd. Mr. Cameron stated that the initial “Letter of Interest/Letter of Intent (LOI)” is submitted through an online portal and, according to LCHIP staff, is essentially a screening tool to determine project eligibility and eligible applicants would then receive an invitation to apply for the grant, which has a hard deadline of June 17, 2026. Discussion took place on the roles of the Conservation Commission, Town Staff, and the Select Board in the grant application process. It was indicated that the Select Board must authorize any application for and/or acceptance of grant funding for the Town of Hudson.

Selectman Dumont advised that the request be simplified to simply recommend to the Hudson

Board of Selectmen to pursue the purchase of the land parcel at 121-R Wason Rd through the use of an LCHIP grant.

Motion to "Recommend":

Mr. Walter moved to recommend to the Hudson Board of Selectmen to pursue the purchase of the land parcel at 121-R Wason Rd through the use of an LCHIP grant.

Motion seconded by:

Mr. Dickinson

Motion X carried or ___ failed (check one). Vote count: 5 / 0 / 0 (yea / nay / abstain).

c. Trail Easement Request: 51 Trigate Rd

Mr. Murphy proposed a trail easement through the subject property that would provide a public trail connection between Colburn Town Forest and the Musquash Conservation Area. Mr. Dickinson stated that the woods appear to be fairly open on the property and that this connection could be routed in such a way that it would not pass nearby abutting residences and would avoid wetlands on the property. This trail connection would allow for visitors to the large Musquash Conservation Area to access the viewpoint at Colburn Town Forest, which overlooks the Pack Monadnock mountain range to the west. It would also provide another access point for the Colburn Town Forest, which has limited access points and limited parking.

III. Other Business

a. Trail Work Day

The most recent trail work day took place on Sat 5/2/2026. Members marked the Wilkinson View Trail that was previously unmarked.

The next trail work day is scheduled for **Saturday 5/30 at 8:00 a.m. at the Rangers Drive trailhead for Rangers Town Forest**. The plan is to walk the newly-acquired property adjacent to Rangers Town Forest and evaluate maintenance needs, existing/potential trails, etc. The property boundary may be marked with conservation markers if it is clearly delineated by survey markers.

b. Training

A first-aid/CPR training class is scheduled for Mon 5/18/2026 from 7-9pm. A chainsaw safety training class is scheduled for Mon 6/1 from 7-9pm. A Conservation Commission training class is scheduled for Thu 6/18 from 7-9pm in the Buxton Room at Hudson Town Hall.

IV. Financial Status

a. Current Report

- i. The current remaining balance in the operating budget for FY2026, ending 6/30/2026, is \$14,404.00 as of the latest report. Mr. Kirkland advised that a large expenditure was forthcoming for herbicide treatment at Ottarnic Pond, scheduled for 5/19/2026, to control invasive aquatic plant species at that location, which would likely use up most of those remaining funds. A similar treatment will be completed at Robinson Pond later in the spring/summer that will likely come from the FY2027 budget.
- ii. Conservation Fund: Balance = \$827,559.94 (as of March 2026, FY 2026). The approx.. \$90,000 purchase price for the property at 3 Barretts Hill Rd will be withdrawn soon from the Conservation Fund, if it has not already been withdrawn.

V. Correspondence

a. NH Turtle Rescue Fact Sheet

Provided information on turtle crossings and how to assist a turtle in danger of being struck by a vehicle.

b. NH Lakes: Annual Donation Request.

The Commission has historically supported NH Lakes with an annual donation in the amount of \$100.00.

Discussion:

A brief discussion took place on the amount and frequency of the donation.

Motion:

To expend \$100.00 for the annual donation to NH Lakes.

**Motion by: Mr. Walter Second: Mr. Cameron Motion carried/failed:
Carried, 5 / 0 / 0.**

c. NHDES: Environmental Fact Sheet – Vegetation Management for Water Quality & Waterfront Protection

Mr. Walter briefly summarized the fact sheet and the importance of shorefront vegetation for water quality. He indicated he had made a physical model of a shorefront that he would bring to the next meeting.

VI. Approval of Minutes: April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes; April 27, 2026 Site Walk

Meeting Minutes

Discussion:

Mr. Cameron: Correction on page 1 of the 4/13/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes: Replace instances of “LeClaire” with “LeClair”.

Motion:

To accept the meeting minutes, as amended, from the April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting and April 27, 2026 Site Walk Meeting.

Motion by: Mr. Dickinson Second: Ms. Griswold Motion carried/failed: Carried, 5 / 0 / 0 .

VII. Commissioners’ Comments

Mr. Kirkland mentioned that Mr. Dhima has advised the Commission to revisit the by-laws, last updated in 2019, to ensure they are current and consistent.

Mr. Dickinson mentioned a broken footbridge at the Robinson Pond Recreation Area, in the southwestern portion of the property, closer to Robinson Drive, that is not needed in that location and could be removed or relocated and modified for re-use at another location. He also mentioned that there are a number of blowdowns at Colburn Town Forest, one of which is large and likely warrants a short trail re-route.

Mr. Walter re-capped a presentation given the previous month at the Hudson Senior Center, along with a guided hike at the Tiger Road conservation property. He mentioned that there was an individual uncovering artifacts near one of the old foundations on the property. Discussion took place on regulations regarding digging/archaeological exploration on town conservation land and appropriate treatment of those activities. Selectman Dumont indicated he would research existing town regulations on the topic. Ms. Keller cautioned about liability concerns along with potential site disturbance and destruction of artifacts (intentional or otherwise).

VIII. Adjournment

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting.

Motion by: Mr. Dickinson Second: Mr. Cameron

Discussion: None

Motion carried/failed: Carried, 5 / 0 / 0 .

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

****Next Regular Meeting: Monday, June 8, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Cameron", written in a cursive style.

Christopher Cameron, Clerk