OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313
Tele: (978) 649-4 514 x230
MAILTO:Conscom@dunstable-ma.gov

Conservation Commission Minutes **Approved: September 14, 2026**
Monday, August 24, 2026

Chair Alan Chaney called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.
Members present: Marijan Andacic, Leah Basbanes, Alan Chase, and Bridgette Pontbriand

Members absent: Kate DeLoureiro and Al Starbird

Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall, 511 Main Street, lower level

Dunstable Properties & Trails Website Project

Volunteer Scott Lewis provided an update on his initial efforts to develop a Dunstable Properties and Trails website, **DunstableTrails.ORG**. Mr. Lewis reported that conservation property information supplied by the Administrator had been imported into the website database. Discussion focused on obtaining accurate trailhead GPS coordinates, identifying the publicly accessible properties and the activities to promote, evaluating trail mapping options, and developing descriptive content. Members discussed the use of photographs, trail maps, kiosk information, and property descriptions to improve the usefulness of the website for the public. The Commission agreed to continue working with Mr. Lewis to categorize properties and refine content as development progresses.

Certificate of Compliance Request: 326 Transmission Line Right-of-Way

Leah reported that restoration work associated with the transmission line project, DEP File# 147-031, had been completed. Temporary construction roads had been removed and disturbed areas were successfully revegetating. The Commission determined that project conditions had been satisfactorily fulfilled.

- Leah moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance for the 326 Transmission Line Right-of-Way project to New England Power. Bridgette seconded the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

DRLT McLoon Property Conservation Restriction Acceptance & Signatory

- Leah moved that the Dunstable Conservation Commission accept the updated conservation restriction on the McLoon Property from the Dunstable Rural Land

Trust (DRLT) as presented and authorize Vice Chair Marijan Andacic to execute and sign all documents necessary to complete the acceptance on behalf of the Commission. Marijan seconded the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Site Visit Feedback

a) 362 River Street

Chair Alan and Leah reviewed the August 18th site visit with property owner, Christian Ferreira, regarding a proposed new 30'X40' garage location. Field observations confirmed that the proposed work is located outside the 100-foot wetland buffer zone which had been professionally flagged. The Commission concluded that no additional Conservation Commission action or formal permit filing was required and the building department could release the building permit requested.

b) 31 Lower Dam Way

Leah and the Administrator met with the property owner, Ann Marie Denomme, on August 22nd regarding unauthorized removal of several trees within 100' of the Massapoag shoreline. They observed that no trees or shrubs had been removed from the shoreline area itself and determined that no significant impact on resource areas had occurred. The owner agreed to retain or only grind the stumps and inform neighbors of the requirement for authorization from the Commission before any tree removal near the lake. The Commission agreed that replacement plantings would not be required and that no further action was necessary.

Flat Rock Trail Race 2027

The Administrator reported that the Race Director, Rob Fiero had requested June 12, 2027 for the annual Flat Rock Trail Race to benefit the Humane Society of Greater Nashua. The DRLT President had provided verbal approval of the proposed date in a phone conversation with Rob. The property insurance requirements will remain in effect.

- Leah moved to approve June 12, 2027 as the date for the Flat Rock Trail Race. Marijan seconded the motion. -- Motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship

- **Selective Invasive Plant Control Treatment**

Oxbow Associates, Inc., a licensed applicator in MA will be applying herbicides to four properties in Town using foliar spray or cut/stem methods at the end of August and September as weather permits. The Administrator reported that notification signs for upcoming invasive species treatment activities had been posted at Stone Arch Bridge and Flat Rock Hill kiosks and social media notifications would occur. DRLT's/Kap Siddall

was notified regarding treatment activities associated with the McLoon Farm area and the vendor was asked to avoid Thursday's farmer market impact.

- **Property Maintenance Needs**

Members discussed mowing needs at several conservation properties. Unkety Woods will be mowed by John Cover due to his familiarity with the property. Mowing at Flat Rock Hill will be deferred until invasive species treatment activities have been completed. The Commission also discussed poison ivy encroachment at multiple properties and reviewed a recurring sanitation issue reported at Stone Arch Bridge. Members discussed possible monitoring options should the issue continue.

Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2026

- Alan Chase made a motion to approve the August 10 meeting minutes. Leah seconded the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills/Payroll

- Alan Chase motioned to approve one payroll. Leah seconded the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Leah moved to close the meeting at 7:16PM. Bridgette seconded the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting scheduled is Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Rock
Administrative Coordinator
Dunstable Conservation Commission

APPROVED