

Durham Conservation Commission

March 25, 2026; 6:30 – 8:00 pm; Eureka Center

DCC Attendees: Sam Cuccaro, Jess Costa, Roberta Brezinski, Mike Friendly, Jeff Tindall, Kelly Waddle

Potential Alternate Member: Tristian Rowe

1) January meeting notes approved

2) Update on Runaround Pond Fish Passage Project

- The option of the 'runaround' channel that crosses a small part of private land is preferred
- Future discussion with Maine Rivers: how would a new culvert at runaround be funded (e.g., grant?)
- Jess to ask Andy Fisk when report is expected to be complete
- Plan a community information event after report is available
- Jess to draft an Alewives information News Blast to go out by end of April in advance of early May alewives run
- Michael to remain in communication with landowner regarding crossing their land for the preferred fish passage option (possibly send a video showing where channel would need to be widened and culvert replaced)

3) Discussion of March 18th public hearing land ordinance changes

- No topics that DCC would be concerned about, agree with lining up with state laws, having Planning Board take over assessment of non-conformities with land ordinances (instead of Board of Appeals), and agree with hedgerow requirements for abutting subdivisions

4) Debrief on February community event and next steps Open Space Plan

- Good turnout at February community event
- Good discussions (possibly include deeryard surveys for future subdivision applications, add private property wetland surveys for subdivisions to town data maps)
- Reach out to GPCOG for next steps, next quarterly report, and possible upcoming public engagement event attendance opportunities
- Mike to draft a News Blast describing open space vs conservation easement

5) 8th person on commission as "alternate" to step in for voting when another member is not present

6) Bates Game Camera Survey for Bobcat at Chelsea Meadows (set up March 26)

7) Determining date for April meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.