Received 11/5/26
9:24 AM Jodi Moore, ATC

Town of Durham Conservation Commission
Special Meeting Minutes

Nov. 3, 2026

1) Augur called the meeting to order at 7. Members present: Augur, Cordes, DeVito, Dudko, Meigs, Miller.

2) Meigs moved approval of the agenda, DeVito seconded. All ayes.

3) Public comment - No members of the public present

4) Grant for Forestry practices at Curtis Woodlands

   Augur had circulated to the Commission, as well as the First Selectman (Rea), his Executive Assistant (Lehet), and the Finance Director (Moncata), the draft grant submission prior to applying, and shared the DEEP Decision Letter to the same. Lehet returned comments on the numbered items in the DEEP letter. Augur reviewed the component documents of the grant submission previously shared in late August, passing around a printout. He committed to resending in email so members have them closer at hand.

   Clarity is needed from DEEP as to which "certain budget items that are NOT eligible for funding", and Augur will ask when Confirming receipt of the letter and Durham's intent to accept, with the Board of Selectmen set to act at their Nov. 16th meeting.

   The commission discussed the scope of work and location thereof on the parcel. The award letter noted deer protection would need to be added to the budget as it is a requirement for new plantings, and Cordes and Miller discussed why

and how deer protection is implemented. It was agreed to update the budget with the deer protection plus the other items DEEP had identified.

Reviewing the eight numbered items in the DEEP letter:

1. By 11/13: Confirm receipt and intent to accept. Augur will email confirming receipt, asking for clarification about what is not eligible, and make note of the BOS 11/16 meeting.
2. By 11/13: Submit updated budget. Augur will add funds for deer protection, a contingency fund figure. There was discussion about what aspects of the project could be handled by the Commission's two certified forester members versus what should be done by a third party forester for hire. Augur will reach out to the firm that produced the Town's Forest Management Plan for Curtis Woodlands which formed the basis for the grant application to find out about availability and cost of technical services (i.e., any marking on site and monitoring of practices). The commission's foresters are comfortable handling the professional services (e.g., obtaining bids, the "office work").
3. By 12/4: Verify contact info. It is correct.
4. By 12/4: Complete Risk Assessment. Moncata will be point on this, which includes the Town's audited financials.
5. By 12/4: Complete AD-1048. BOS will act on this at Nov. 16the meeting and Rea will then sign.
6. By 12/4: Authorizing resolution statement. BOS will act 11/16, Rea will sign.
7. By 12/4: Certificate of Insurance. Moncata will obtain and provide.
8. By 12/4: If Town wants direct deposit. Moncata to decide and act.

5) Cordes moved for adjournment, Miller seconded. All ayes at 7:32.