

Cornish Conservation Commission Special Meeting
Wednesday, February 11, 2026

6-8pm, Town Hall, 294 Town House Road, Cornish, NH

Minutes - Conservation Plan Community Forum

Commissioner Members: Glenn Griffin, Chair; Robin Kilfeather-Mackey Vice-Chair; Linda Leone, Secretary; Jody Schubert, Reyer Jaarsma, Julie Foote

Alternate Members: Bob Taylor, Rickey Poor, David Haseman

Absent: Cindy Heath, Member; Keith Beardslee, Select Board Representative

Moosewood, LLC: Jeff Littleton, Principal Ecologist and Sr. Planner; Steven Lamonde, Ecologist and Project Manager

Members of the Public (approximate): *See last page*

1. Welcome and Tonight's Goal (Glenn). Glenn opened the meeting at 6pm, welcomed the audience, introduced Robin (Conservation Plan Project Manager), the Moosewood staff and reviewed the agenda.
2. Project Plan & Community Input to Date (Jeff) - Jeff began the [slide presentation](#) by introducing the concept of Open Space and reviewed the Goals and Intentions shaped through the Plan process thus far. He described community interaction during the first two forums, and the seven top conservation themes that the community prioritized.
3. Mapping Conservation Priorities (Steven) - Steven described how ME "mapped" the conservation themes and generated statistics relative to each resource. He reviewed each map in detail, emphasizing the importance of the recently-updated NH State Wildlife Plan, and how these maps assess existing natural resources.
4. What Is a Co-occurrence Analysis & Cornish Results (Steven) - He explained the co-occurrence modeling process which shows the degree of concentration of natural resources. A conservation focus area map was derived from overlapping the assessment maps. Steven answered questions from the audience.
5. Recommendations & Q&A (Jeff) - Jeff spoke about the draft version of the Conservation Plan which is now underway. He reviewed the seven conservation themes/priorities and described how they had been woven into the Conservation Plan.
 1. Preserve Cornish's rural character, scenic beauty, and working lands
 2. Protect source water, wetlands, and watersheds
 3. Protect wildlife, habitats, and wildlife corridors
 4. Adapt to changing conditions and reduce vulnerability to climate change
 5. Promote forest health management

6. Integrate conservation priorities into town planning and zoning documents
7. Collaborate regionally with conservation partners and neighboring towns

It was noted that data obtained from the Conservation Plan can contribute to work undertaken by Planning/Zoning/Select Boards when identifying areas suitable for development. Jeff answered questions from the audience.

Steven spoke to the topic of how ME’s site survey data was incorporated into the draft conservation plan.

Sample recommendations discussed:

- Incorporate the Conservation Plan into Master Plan
- Use all conservation planning maps/tools in combination with the Conservation Project Evaluation Form
- Maintain funding to sustain a productive conservation program
- Establish an Open Space Conservation Planning subcommittee

6. Closing Thoughts and Next Steps (Jeff / Robin)

Robin said the draft plan is under review by the CCC now, this will evolve into a final version to be shared with the Select Board, Planning & Zoning Boards and subsequently published and distributed. She emphasized that the Plan represents information and data that can provide a foundation to assist the CCC, Town entities and Towns people in future planning and decision-making.

Jody Schubert thanked the assemblage for participating in such an important process. She spoke about the need to support education and outreach among our residents and highlighted upcoming events to be hosted by the Conservation Commission for the rest of 2026: Winter Wildlife Tracking and Habitats; Forest Health Education; Wetlands Education, and “Conserving Your Land”.

Next Meeting: will be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 7pm, Town Offices

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Attendees who signed in:

Andrews, Maggie
Bourne, Jason
Cass, Everet
Cowdrey, Dean
Dewey, Will & Emily

Duval, Larry
Fitch, Jim & Sue
Fitch, Corey
Fitts, Lois
Fuerrt, Michael & Linda
Gallagher, Bill
Gallagher, Dillon
Goodwin, Gillian
Grober, Dave
Hammond, John
Kaufman, Judith
Lord, Jan & Selden
Maslan, Kathleen & Leo
O'Neill, Colleen
Poor, Dan
Rudner, Karen
Schubert, Jim & Ali
Seidel, Ros
Walker, Beth
Whiteman, Nancy