

A Long Winter's Nap  
Kris Holleran - Raymond Conservation Committee

As the days grow short and cold weather arrive some of New Hampshire's mammals have gone into hibernation. The Encyclopedia Britannica defines hibernation as: "a state of greatly reduced metabolic activity and lowered body temperature adopted by certain mammals as an adaptation to adverse winter conditions." Hibernation conserves energy and allows animals to safely survive the winter. Animals in hibernation generally do not eat, drink, pee or poop although most occasionally wake up to raise their body temperature, eat or use the bathroom. Animals may hibernate for weeks, months or days depending on the species and environmental conditions.

New Hampshire has four types of mammals that are true hibernators; bats, woodchucks, chipmunks and jumping mice. Bears are the subject of much debate. Some scientists consider them a true hibernator and others do not. Raccoons, skunks and gray squirrels do not hibernate but have strategies to help them survive the long cold winter. This article will discuss New Hampshire's true hibernators and the controversial black bear.

Bats start hibernating in late August through October. They travel to hibernacula such as caves or mines up to 200 miles from where they are living. Many bats will huddle together in one area and they shiver to keep body temperatures above freezing. This is necessary as a bat's body temperature will drop from 100° Fahrenheit to about 32° F and their heart rate from 210 beats per minute (bpm) to about 8 bpm. Sadly, it is during hibernation that some bats are infected with a fungus that causes White Nose Syndrome and eventually death.

Woodchucks go down into their hibernation burrow when temperatures drop down to about 40° F. Woodchucks live off stored body fat and will have lost about half their body weight when awakening in early February or March. At this time, some may also be used to determine the timing of Spring's arrival! During hibernation woodchuck heart rates drop from 105 bpm. to about 4 bpm. Their temperature drops as well -from 104° F to 38° F or less.

Meadow and woodland jumping mice curl up and hibernate for two to three weeks at a time. During hibernation their body temperature is just above freezing. Jumping mice use the length of the day to determine when it is time to fatten up and begin hibernating.

Chipmunks will alternate long periods of hibernation with time out of the den on warm winter days. Den chambers stored with large quantities of acorns supply nourishment. During hibernation a chipmunk's heart rate will drop from 350 bpm. to about 4 bpm. A temperature drop from 101° F to about 42-45° F occurs.

Historically black bears were not considered true hibernators as they did not experience a steep drop in body temperature. The temperature of a denning black bear only drops from an average of 100-101° F to about 88° F. Bears are highly insulated and lose heat slowly when compared to other hibernators. The higher temperature allows for a quicker response to danger than a very low body temperature would. The slow loss of heat corresponds to a large decrease in metabolic

rate of 50-60%. During hibernation the heart rate of a bear will drop from 40-50 bpm. to 8- 19 bpm. Bears in hibernation live off of large quantities of stored fat. Bears do not eat, drink, urinate or defecate during hibernation. Their waste products are recycled and the nitrogen from that recycling is used to build muscle. Bears lose up to 30% of their body weight during hibernation, but they do not experience muscle wasting. These factors have led some scientists to consider bears to be not only true hibernators but super hibernators.

Hibernation is a necessary survival strategy for some mammals in New Hampshire. But you can observe many other native animals out and about during the cold, short winter days. Winter is a great time to enjoy the outdoors whether hiking, snowshoeing, skiing or skating. So don't let the short, cold days lure you into a winter's nap - go outside and enjoy all nature has to offer!

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**Town of Raymond**  
**Conservation Commission DRAFT Minutes of**  
**October 27, 2021**

**Commission Members in Attendance:**

Jan Kent, Chair  
Kathy McDonald, Vice Chair  
Deb McNelly, Secretary  
Kris Holleran  
Michael Unger

**Meeting Called to Order by:**

Chair Jan Kent at 7:00 PM

**Commission Members Excused:**

Melissa Potter

**Commission Members Absent:**

**Recording Secretary:**

Alvina Snegach

**Members of the Public in Attendance:**

Patricia Bridgeo

**Public Input:**

Ms. Bridgeo began with thanking all the board and committee volunteers in Raymond for what they do and noted that the Family Fun Festival event last week was a very good example of it. She continued that the Planning and Zoning Boards will conduct a workshop to review zoning amendments tomorrow and asked if the ConsCom would be interested in looking into zoning and regulations related to bee keeping in town. She said that currently bees are regulated as livestock, which is not quite suitable for apiculture. Ms. Bridgeo said that there are beekeepers in Raymond, and she would like to see that they have protections that would prevent something happening to them as it had happened to those who had poultry. She said that Concord has a very good ordinance developed specifically for bee keeping and spoke at length about the benefits of bees to nature and the dangers they face with modern use of pest/insect control methods and spraying for mosquitos in particular. She added that there are natural methods to control mosquito populations that the town could use and encourage.

Ms. Holleran summarized Ms. Bridgeo's request as follows:

- Amend zoning to make it more inclusive to beekeeping or exempt bees from livestock regulations;
- Revisit mosquito spraying practices and research alternatives to the chemicals used.

Ms. Bridgeo reiterated that the City of Concord already has an ordinance, and it is pretty good.

Members discussed the issue and agreed that they would need to collect some data, look at other towns' practices, and come up with recommendations. Ms. Bridgeo said that she will send them the information she was able to find and put a presentation for a future meeting.

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44 **Agenda Items**

45  
46 **Green Road Wetland applications (3)** Chair Kent said that there were three  
47 wetland permits by notification from NHDES for three lots on Green Road. She noted  
48 some questions that were not answered on each permit and explained what impacts are  
49 proposed on each of the lots, where an intermittent stream is crossing all three of  
50 them, and culverts will be used to make the driveway crossing on each lot in the  
51 narrowest spots. She said that there was a site walk and ConsCom looked at all three  
52 crossings. Ms. Kent added that a shared driveway was also discussed, however, it did  
53 not seem feasible compared to the three individual ones. Ms. Kent added that NHDES  
54 will be reviewing the permit and that ConsCom can provide comments. Nobody had any  
55 concerns. Ms. Kent said that she will send an email reflecting that.

56  
57 **Cassier Parking Area – Mike**  
58 Mr. Unger spoke about the two quotes that were received and his own estimate for the  
59 gravel needed to complete the project. He said that he was confident that 80 yards will  
60 be sufficient, thus, the 180-yard estimate by Littlewoods was high. He said that he  
61 contacted the company and they insisted that they were correct in their estimate and  
62 did not want to revise the quote. Mr. Unger said that the quote from Earth and Stone  
63 was for the amount of \$9,252 and Littewood’s was over \$12,000.

64 **Ms. Holleran made a motion to grant the project to Earth and Stone**  
65 **Contracting, LLC. Ms. McNelly duly seconded and motion passed**  
66 **unanimously.**

67  
68 **Dearborn issues**  
69 Ms. Kent displayed the email from Bear-Paw about their latest visit to the Dearborn  
70 Forest and the issues that were noted:  
71 - Water runoff from the parking lot creating a ditch for which a water bar was  
72 proposed as a solution;  
73 - One of the bridges being directly in the wetland and not over it, like it should;  
74 and  
75 - Vernal pool being too close to the trail causing it some damage.

76 Ms. Kent said that Bear-Paw suggested to get some volunteers to work on fixing those  
77 issues. She said that Ms. McDonald and she went out to look at the issues and  
78 displayed the pictures of the erosion created by water runoff and members discussed  
79 what a water bar was and how it would serve as a fix. Ms. Kent also displayed a small  
80 survey of the area and said that it is possible that the issue is in the right of way of the  
81 cul-de-sac.

82 Ms. Holleran said that she got the impression from the email that Bear-Paw was  
83 suggesting that the ConsCom get together the group of volunteers, whom they offered  
84 to help. Ms. Kent said she will double check with Bear-Paw.

85 Then Ms. Kent displayed the bridge pictures and explained how it was built and rebuilt  
86 originally. Members discussed possible ways to fix the issue (which was with the first

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87 part of the bridge assembled from wooden pallets that were placed directly into the  
88 wetland) and whether wetland permitting would need to be secured. Also discussed  
89 was a possibility of moving the trail, which was deemed not feasible due to property  
90 lines, access, and wetlands themselves. Ms. Kent said that the options were to ask for  
91 quotes (including from those contractors who would allow volunteers to help to reduce  
92 the costs) or attempting to build it themselves after researching best management  
93 practices for trail crossings. Members agreed to do more research on such bridges and  
94 on permitting and discuss the findings at a future meeting.

95 Ms. Kent also said that she will ask Bear-Paw about the vernal pool issue and how they  
96 suggest fixing it.

97 She concluded with reminding members that Bear-Paw will be out to do the easement  
98 monitoring there on Friday, and if anyone was interested to attend, they should let her  
99 know.

100 Then there was a discussion about removal of tree stands at Dearborn and its progress.  
101 Ms. Kent said that the abutter agreed that they could use his property for access and  
102 storage of materials so that Department of Public Works could use his driveway to come  
103 pick them up. Ms. Kent said that Ms. McDonald and she walked around to see how it  
104 could be done, but did not quite accomplish what they had hoped, so they will need to  
105 come out again. She said that there is one metal stand that is bolted to the tree, and it  
106 seems as though it will not be coming down. That leaves one stand ConsCom has to  
107 take down and carry out. It was suggested to flag the route to the abutter's property  
108 and to wait until winter and take the debris out on a sled.

109

#### **Family Fun Festival Follow Up**

111 Ms. McNelly said that it went very well and that there were over 50 cards returned to  
112 them for the raffle. Members talked about the success of the event and that it was  
113 good PR for the ConsCom.

114

#### **Eco Center - Damaged Display**

116 Members discussed the damaged display that is covered in vine and is hard to see or  
117 read now. Ms. Kent said that they will need to check who made those signs previously  
118 and talk to the school as well. Ms. McNelly will contact the school maintenance and  
119 facilities coordinator to find out more. Ms. Kent said she will send his contact details to  
120 Ms. McNelly.

121 Members also discussed the idea of conducting walks for kids suggested earlier by Ms.  
122 McDonald as it could be one of the ConsCom activities.

123

#### **Finance**

##### **NHACC Invoice**

126 Ms. Kent displayed the invoice NHACC for 2022 membership in the amount of \$525.  
127 Members discussed the increased amount and the benefits of membership. **Ms. Kent**  
128 **made a motion to approve paying the NHACC invoice for membership in the**

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129 **amount of \$525 out of the account #01-8052-008. Ms. McNelly duly**  
130 **seconded and motion passed unanimously.**

131  
132 **Expense receipts**

133 Ms. McNelly gave Ms. Kent the receipt for making copies for the Fun Festival in the  
134 amount of \$7.50.

135 **Ms. Holleran made a motion to reimburse Ms. McNelly in the amount of \$7.50**  
136 **from the account # 01-8052-012. Mr. Unger duly seconded and motion**  
137 **passed unanimously.**

138 Ms. Holleran asked if the ConsCom should ask to open a new account for outreach and  
139 it was decided that it would not be necessary.

140  
141 **Conservation Fund September statement**

142 Ms. Kent displayed the Conservation Fund statement for September with the beginning  
143 balance of \$296,664.00 and ending balance of \$296,683.51.

144  
145 **Conservation Fund transactions 3Q transfers**

146 Chair Kent displayed the third quarter transfers and member discussed the second table  
147 related to the current use transactions, which they were not clear about. Ms. Kent said  
148 that she will reach out to the town for clarification.

149  
150 **CF - Earth and Stone – signed**

151 Ms. Kent noted that she included the signed payment paperwork in the packet for  
152 information purposes only.

153  
154 **Approval of minutes**

155 *October 13, 2021 draft minutes* were reviewed, and changes were made. **Ms. Holleran**  
156 **made a motion to approve the 10/13/2021 minutes as amended. Mr. Unger**  
157 **duly seconded, and motion passed unanimously.**

158 *October 21, 2021 draft site walk minutes* were reviewed and no changes were made.  
159 **Ms. Holleran made a motion to approve the 10/21/2021 site walk minutes as**  
160 **presented. Mr. Unger duly seconded, and motion passed with a 4:0:1 vote in**  
161 **favor. Ms. McNelly abstained due to not attending the site walk.**

162  
163 **Correspondence**

164  
165 **DOT Bridge maintenance**

166 Chair Kent displayed the letter from NHDOT about work on the bridge over Fordway  
167 Brook on Route 102 and said that they were asking if there is a list of mitigation  
168 priorities that the town can provide. Members discussed the fact that there is no such  
169 list and a possible workshop to discuss the project that would fit the mitigation  
170 parameters. Ms. Kent said that she will schedule a workshop in January of 2022. Mr.  
171 Unger also noted that the letter asked if there were any existing community of regional

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172 plans that this project may interfere with, and members concluded that there were  
173 none.

174

175 **DES - 4 Ice House Road**

176 Chair Kent displayed the NHDES violation letter, which she noted was a second one  
177 already, and provided a brief history of the issue, noting that the Town Building  
178 Inspector has already been out there. Members looked at the pictures of the after and  
179 at the aerial of the before and it was noted that there is not much the ConsCom can do,  
180 and that NHDES is aware of the issue and if the property owners decide to rebuild, they  
181 would need a special permit.

182

183 **Kent- Special Permit - Letter to PB**

184 Ms. Kent said that this letter was in the packet for information only.

185

186 **Fremont Road letter to TM/BOS**

187 Ms. Kent displayed the letter, and everyone thanked her for her effort in producing it.

188

189 **Other Items**

190 **CC Meeting - November 10, 2021**

191 Ms. Kent also noted that the Planning Board zoning workshop will take place tomorrow  
192 and recommended that anyone who has any suggestions should attend. She said that  
193 she will be attending, and members could email her with ideas as well

194 Members also discussed Blackstone Preserve subdivision and the fact that it still had  
195 granite curbing which was not turtle friendly. Ms. Kent said that it would need to be  
196 checked with the Town Manager.

197

198 **Adjournment**

199 **Ms. Holleran made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Ms.**  
200 **McDonald and passed with a unanimous vote in favor.**

201

202 The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

203

204 Respectfully Submitted,

205

206 Alvina Snegach

207 Recording Secretary

**Town of Raymond**  
**Conservation Commission DRAFT Minutes of**  
**September 22, 2021**

**Commission Members in Attendance:**

Jan Kent, Chair  
Deb McNelly, Secretary  
Kris Holleran  
Michael Unger  
Melissa Potter

**Meeting Called to Order by:**

Chair Jan Kent at 7:00 PM

**Commission Members Excused:**

Kathy McDonald, Vice Chair

**Commission Members Absent:**

**Recording Secretary:**

Alvina Snegach

**Members of the Public in Attendance:**

Larry Kent  
Patricia Bridgeo

**Public Input:**

Ms. Kent recused herself from the meeting and Ms. McNelly took over chairing the meeting for public input. Ms. Kent and Ms. Bridgeo then both left the room.

Ms. McNelly opened the floor for public comment. Larry Kent from 77 West Shore Drive introduced himself as the property owner who has applied for a permit to the Planning Board to build a fence in Conservation Zone G. He distributed the paperwork to the members and went over the details. The fence will be post and beam and about 60 feet of it will be placed in the Zone G. The impacts within Zone G will be the holes dug for the posts. Mr. Kent then answered questions about the part of the lake the property is located on, the type of fence, how far away from the water the fence would be, whether the lake water raises this high, how many posts would be placed in Zone G, and how the posts would be installed. Mr. Kent also said that the fence would serve as the boundary marker and that it is being put up before the house goes for sale. Members briefly discussed that they had no concerns with the project and the process for ConsCom making comments on such permits. It was noted that a sitewalk is needed, that would have to take place before the Planning Board meeting. Consensus was to have the letter to the Planning Board written before the sitewalk, so that the members could finalize it during the site visit. Ms. McNelly will draft a letter and contact Vice Chair McDonald to schedule a sitewalk at the property.

Ms. Kent and Ms. Bridgeo returned to the room and Ms. Kent took over chairing.

**Agenda Items**

**Family Fun Festival Planning**

Members discussed potential activities for the scavenger hunt. Ms. Holleran said that

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44 after visiting the area she thought that the signs that are already there are quite long  
45 and wordy and suggested, that the ConsCom would make their own signs and place  
46 them on either trees or on posts along the trail. The signs will mark items of interest,  
47 that the participants would then check off on their cards that would be later submitted  
48 for the bike raffle. Items of interest were discussed, as well as the need to split the trail  
49 into two routes – a shorter one for smaller children and a longer one for older kids.  
50 Members talked about supplies they would need to make signs and cards, and  
51 distributed the tasks. Ms. Potter and Ms. McNelly will draw/print the signs and cards.  
52 Ms. Kent and Ms. Holleran will go back to the trail to see which items of interest should  
53 go on the signs and on cards, and Ms. Holleran will provide a write up to Ms. Potter.  
54 Ms. Kent will also find out which signs/posters/maps/flyers the Town office already has  
55 for ConsCom and will obtain those. She will also send the write up done by Ms.  
56 McDonald on short walks on Town property, so that it could be handed out to people  
57 who visit the booth. Members also discussed whether a table/booth would be needed to  
58 set up and who will work there on the day of the event. Ms. McNelly will ask the  
59 organizers if the table/booth would be already set up and how many children are  
60 expected, so that ConsCom would know how many cards to make. Other things Ms.  
61 McNelly will find out are what the rain date is, the details of the raffle, and the duration  
62 of the event itself, so that ConsCom members could plan their participation shifts. Ms.  
63 Kent noted that the organizers will hold a meeting to plan the even on September 29<sup>th</sup>.  
64 Ms. McNelly said that she will attend. The event itself will take place on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at  
65 10 AM, and members would need to show up early to set up. Ms. Kent noted that there  
66 will be another ConsCom meeting before then and members could discuss it there too.

67

68 **Cassier parking project - bids – Mike**

69 Ms. Kent said that she contacted Littlewoods to explain to them why the project has not  
70 yet been awarded. Mr. Unger said that he contacted the contractor who earlier agreed  
71 to remove the old trailer and drums at Cassier, and he was also interested. Mr. Unger  
72 will meet with him on Friday to go over the project details and then wait for a quote.  
73 Mr. Unger was did not hear back from the third vendor. Ms. Kent asked Mr. Unger to  
74 send an email update to the Town Manager.

75

76 **Wetland restoration - Cassier - update – Mike**

77 Ms. Kent said that Mr. Unger did write the abutter letter to notify them of the planned  
78 wetland restoration. Mr. Unger will send it to all the abutters.

79

80 **Town property Letter review - 6/29 site walk**

81 Ms. Kent said that only two people (Ms. McDonald and herself) were at that sitewalk  
82 and the letter with the property descriptions was in the packet. After a short discussion  
83 on whether to send the recommendations for the four properties in the letter or to wait  
84 until more properties are added, members decided to send the letter with the four.  
85 They went over each property and came up with the following recommendations:

86 - Epping Street (.5 acres) – to be retained for flood water storage;

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- 87 - Scotland Drive (.13 acres) – to be retained for river access;  
88 - Ann Logan Circle (.56 acres) – to be retained as it is a fire pond;  
89 - Route 27 (1.73 acres) – since it is likely that that property cannot be developed  
90 due to wetlands and a vernal pool, ConsCom recommends it be retained as it  
91 collects stormwater runoff and provides some bird habitat.

92 **Ms. Holleran made a motion to send the letter with recommendations as**  
93 **amended. Ms. McNelly duly seconded and motion passed with everyone**  
94 **voting in favor.**

95  
96 **Finance**

97  
98 **Conservation Fund & General Fund**

99 Ms. Kent displayed the Conservation Fund statement for August 2021. Beginning  
100 Balance was \$296,643.84 and the ending balance was \$296,664.00. Interest earned  
101 was \$20.16.

102  
103 **Approval of minutes**

104 *September 8, 2021 meeting minutes* draft was reviewed, and changes were made. **Ms.**  
105 **Potter made a motion, duly seconded by Mr. Unger to approve the minutes of**  
106 **09/08/2021 as amended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.**

107  
108 **Correspondence**

109 **BOS-Baiting Letter and BOS-Hunting Letter**

110 Chair Kent noted that both letters were part of the packet for information purpose.

111  
112 **Other items**

113 Ms. Kent noted that there was a letter from NHDES received about an alleged violation  
114 within the protected shoreland area.

115  
116 Ms. Kent also said that she had received permission from the abutter to walk through  
117 their property to get to the Town property with the tree stands for their removal. She  
118 had also emailed the Department of Public Works to see if they could help with the  
119 removal of materials after the stands are taken down. Ms. Kent and Ms. Holleran will  
120 walk the property again and report on their findings.

121  
122 Next, Ms. Kent spoke about the upcoming ConsCom meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> during  
123 which the September 12<sup>th</sup> site walk would be discussed about the property that had  
124 concerned abutters. The abutters should be back and the ConsCom could look at some  
125 maps, discuss its findings, and provide recommendations. Ms. Kent added that she has  
126 found a previous subdivision plan and she will send it out to members. If any of the  
127 members were interested to visit the area before the discussion, they should reach out  
128 to Ms. Kent.

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129 Then members discussed the November newsletter ideas. Ms. Holleran offered to write  
130 about hibernating animals in New Hampshire and those who do not truly hibernate.  
131 Ms. Potter said that she will finalize the second part of the newsletter about wildflower  
132 meadows and composting.

133  
134 Ms. Kent said that she brought a copy of the old NHACC handbook and said that the  
135 Town another copy which she can get. She also distributed some Bear-Paw newsletters  
136 from earlier this year.

137  
138 Patricia Bridgeo requested to speak and spoke about the UNH Cooperative Extension's  
139 collection of common milkweed pods from people in the area for the purpose of  
140 propagating it around the state. The collection would be from September 15<sup>th</sup> to  
141 October 30<sup>th</sup> and details could be found on their website. Ms. Kent said that she can  
142 also add this information to the newsletter and post on the ConsCom page on  
143 Facebook.

144 Ms. Bridgeo also noted that the Planning Board will hold its Master Plan and zoning  
145 amendment workshop on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

146  
147 **Adjournment**  
148 **Ms. Holleran made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Ms.**  
149 **McNelly and passed with a unanimous vote in favor.**

150  
151 The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

152  
153 Respectfully Submitted,

154  
155 Alvina Snegach  
156 Recording Secretary

## Industrial Drive redevelopment

Wayne Morrill <wmorrill@Jonesandbeach.com>

Tue 11/9/2021 9:06 AM

To: conscomchair@raymondnh.gov <conscomchair@raymondnh.gov>

Cc: Luke Hurley - Gove Environmental Services, Inc. (lhurley@gesinc.biz) <lhurley@gesinc.biz>; Front Desk <frontdesk@jonesandbeach.com>; Erik Poulin <epoulin@jonesandbeach.com>

21211

Jan,

We are working with the Hard Rock quarry pit owners on wetland permitting for the existing quarry use and future development of the site, wanted to check with the commission if there are any projects or conservation parcels we could discuss with the town for mitigation for our project. If you would like us to come to a conservation commission meeting, please let us know. I have included Luke Hurley from Gove Environmental, Luke is helping us with permitting.

Thank you

Wayne Morrill

President

**Jones&Beach Engineers, Inc.**

85 Portsmouth Avenue

PO Box 219

Stratham, NH 03885

(603) 772-4746 (ext. #122)

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<http://www.jonesandbeach.com>

SAVE A TREE. PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING.

**Think Green and view the Screen**

Thank You

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