



Town of Middleton

182 Kings Highway, Middleton, New Hampshire 03887

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

April 14, 2026, Old Town Hall 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Vice-Chair Jim Keegan (2027) Bonnie Gagnon Selectmen's Liaison., Kate Buzard clerk (2028)

Members Absent: Dan Saliga, Carol Vita

Call to Order: The meeting was opened by Jim Keegan at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: February 10, 2026, motion by Jim and second by Bonnie

Audience: Joann and Anthony Coskie

1. Visit from Forester Bryan Comeau (Dalton Mountain Forestry)

Bryan Comeau attended to review and discuss his **draft Town Forest Management Plan**.

- Bryan explained that due to **shallow soils and site conditions**, the plan proposes **no clearcuts**, only **light harvesting**.
- Joanne asked about current market conditions; Bryan noted that in New Hampshire, "*anything can move at any time.*"
- Jim commented that the lack of harvesting over many years has reduced **wildlife habitat diversity**.
- **Stand 6**, adjacent to Lily Pond, was discussed as a potential location for a **parking area**.
- Bryan reported that **82 acres** are included in the proposed harvest areas.
- He described his role as:
 - laying out the harvest,
 - timber marking,
 - preparing a prospectus, and
 - inviting loggers to bid.

Joanne Coskie asked about the **blue area on the map** and was informed it represents a **forested wetland**. She also asked about opportunities to convert logging roads into **walking trails**, noting that the Town Forest lot off Silver Street could provide trail access for that side of town.

Kate asked about the importance and cost of **boundary line surveys**. Bryan emphasized their value. Kate was surprised to learn that the **Forest Society (SPNHF)** may purchase easements; the Commission should inquire whether SPNHF has interest in the property.

Jim asked Bryan for a **to-do list**. Bryan requested comments or feedback on the draft plan and will send a final **digitized copy and two printed**. He will remain available as a **consultant**.

Bryan also offered to review **Mount Jesse** to determine what is needed for a Town Forest Management Plan and expressed interest in preparing a **Current Conditions Report for Tanglewood**.

2. Commission Membership, Kate will inform the BOS of the following nominations:

- Tracy volunteered to serve a **three-year term**.
- Kate will contact **Dan and Carol** to confirm whether they wish to continue serving and inform them of their nominations to the BOS as alternates.

3. Trustee of Trust Funds

Jim made a motion to authorize; Bonnie provided a second. **Kate** to speak with the **Trustee of the Trust Funds** on behalf of the Conservation Commission. Motion unanimously carried

4. Theresa Mullen Parcel The Commission will send a letter to **Theresa Mullen** to ask whether she still wishes to **donate her parcel on New Portsmouth Road** to the Conservation Commission.

5. Elections Commission elections will be held **next month**.

6. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at **8:00 PM** by a motion by Kate seconded by Jim unanimously. Minutes respectfully submitted by Kate Buzard