

Colebrook Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
July 14, 2026

Meeting called by Joyce Hemingson at 7:01 p.m.

Attendance: Joyce Hemingson, Kim Janak, Edna Travis, Linda Bickford (arrived 7:15 p.m)

Public: Ted Jessup

April 14, 2026 Minutes were approved.

Officer & Committee Reports:

-Pollinator garden: Joyce has mulch to spruce it up.

-Cooper trail: Kim reported that the leaning tree has fallen and is not in the way of the trail.

-Japanese knotweed: The Town has sprayed and cut some of it at the Recreation Area. The State has also done some spraying and cutting. During mapping by the conservation commission, 10 sites were found on state roads and 20 on town roads. Stems that are small enough can be pulled and some of the root system removed. Joyce has been keeping track of cutting dates.

Edna said another meeting is scheduled in August with the First Selectman and public works foreman Bill Jasmin to discuss preventing Japanese knotweed from going to seed.

Old Business:

-Cleanup Day, April 25: Joyce said not many signed up but it appears that people are routinely cleaning up litter while walking town roads during the year.

-Beaver Pond Walk for CT Trails Day, June 6: Eleven people attended with two Army Corps of Engineers staff members first discussing their display about the Colebrook River Dam, the Flood of 1955, and the Corps' role in flood control.

-Pisgah Mountain Road: The Town will install gates at each end so the road can be closed as needed during inclement weather and for the winter. Work on replacing certain culverts will begin this summer.

Edna said road has been open for two months and she hasn't noticed any dumping of trash.

-Membership: The Board agreed to welcome Ted Jessup to join. Joyce will notify Brad Bremer so he can be appointed at a selectmen's meeting.

New Business:

Burn pile for invasive plants at town garage: An action plan will be determined by Bill Jasmin, Joyce and Brad Bremer for residents to follow. Norfolk has such a burn pile at its transfer station.

Colebrook Fair: All agreed to staff a table at the fair and have examples of invasive plants and other educational materials. Board members will rotate time slots during the fair.

Phragmites on 182-A: We need to take action on this small patch near the culvert that goes under the road and keep cutting it to eradicate. The State has done work there to control the beavers and Phragmites was likely introduced at that time. If nothing is done, it will take over and obstruct the view of the wetlands. Action plan: Start cutting next week and continue bimonthly.

Adjournment by Joyce at 7:49 p.m. Unanimous.

Next meeting: October 13, 2026 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Janak
Acting Secretary