

DCC MINUTES of SITE WALK

Related to the

UNH South Drive – Wetlands Permit Application

Tuesday, February 04, 2014

12:30 – 2:00 PM

A. **Attendees:** Diana Carroll, David Williams, Coleen Fuerst, and Otho Wells, along with Joe Persechino, Project Manager with Tighe & Bond.

B. **Action:** In reference to Wetland Plans A and B, all seven Wetland Impact Areas were observed as they are part of, border, or are in proximity to College Brook. Mr. Persechino gave an overview of each one and answered all the questions of the DCC members regarding size, Function & Values, and impacts. He also pointed out the location of the four new gravel wetlands that will compensate for any current wetland disturbance. Although the wetland impact areas range from small (211 SF) to large (5,105 SF), each one was given due analysis and review.

Mr. Persechino made a point to say that the need for addressing the wetlands is consequent to UNH's intention to construct a new road that would reduce traffic/carbon pollution presently on Main Street.

Especial attention was given to the 18-ft wide open bottom culvert to be installed in College Brook that will replace the current 52-inch culvert. The much larger culvert will have a greatly enhanced flow capacity and will serve as mitigation of a 100-year flood. Additionally, it will allow for the improved passage of fish and wildlife.

Even though bike paths and pedestrian walkways are not directly wetland issues, the two subjects were raised and discussed.

C. **Conclusions:** The project is well planned and laid out in an easily understandable form. Wetland impacts are carefully engineered and pose no adverse environmental effects. In fact, the proposed plan will provide a substantial improvement in wetland preservation and maintenance over what is currently in place. The DCC members observed no deficiencies in the wetland impact plans and commend the project's emphasis on superb wetland management in and around College Brook.