

departments seeking information can call the VNA for guidance. The nurse or therapist providing the assessment or information will help the caller identify appropriate services, with the goal of preventing unnecessary hospitalizations or institutionalizations. When possible, the VNA may apply the reimbursement available for the care as well as perform all the services ordered by the client's physician. A nurse practitioner service is available for anyone unable to get to a physician's office.

Senior Health Assessment and Education Clinics are coordinated in conjunction with the Dover Council on Aging. These clinics are developed and led by our public-health nurse specialist to provide health assessment and counseling, and to address various health issues, such as medications and chronic diseases. The clinics also cover other community resources available to seniors.

Maternal/Child Health Services promote the health and stability of families during pregnancy, childbirth, and child-rearing years. Our maternal child-health nurse specialists are certified lactation counselors provide assessment, teaching, and support through home visits.

Communicable Disease Services promote the prevention and control of communicable diseases through case finding, education, and the provision of follow-up care in coordination with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH). Case finding is conducted through the state MAVEN system. Visits, education, and immunization are all part of this service. Due to the pandemic, coordination with the DPH was an all-consuming task during the past year.

2020 Public Health Statistics for Dover

COVID-19 Tracking/Tracing and MAVEN Follow-Up:	716.5 hours
Senior Clinics Held:	2
Flu Immunization Clinics Held:	2

DOVER

Land Use Reports

2020



Report of the **Planning Board**

Carol Chirico, Chair
Carol Lisbon
Mark Sarro
Jody Shue
George Sidgwick
Bill Motley, Associate Member

The Planning Board is composed of five elected full members and an elected associate member. Consulting Planner Gino Carlucci and part-time Planning Assistant Susan Hall support the work of the Board. The Board's duties are set forth in various state laws (Chapters 40A and 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws [MGL]) and the Town of Dover Zoning Bylaws and Subdivision Bylaw. The Board is often asked to provide advice and recommendations to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) on a variety of matters. Planning Board members also serve on the Open Space Committee, attend the meetings of other Town boards and participate in ad-hoc committees relating to planning issues such as the Water Resources Study Committee and the Hale Reservation working group.

Each full member of the Board serves a five-year term. The associate member serves a two-year term. Midterm vacancies on the Board are filled by appointment by the remaining Board members and the Selectmen until the next election, at which time the newly elected member serves for the remainder of the term. In 2020, George Sidgwick was elected to a five-year term. Tara Nolan resigned from her associate member position, and Bill Motley was appointed to finish the two-year term. The Board recognized and thanked Gino Carlucci, who is stepping down as the Town's consulting planner, for his many years of service to the Town. This year, the Town approved a request initiated by the Planning Board to hire a full-time land use planner, who will begin in January 2021.

Board Review and Approvals

In 2020, the Board held 15 public meetings on a range of issues. The Board's meetings were held remotely beginning in March 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions. The reviews and approvals by the Board in 2020 are summarized as follows:

Subdivision Applications: Pursuant to Massachusetts law, the Board governs the local subdivision process. A subdivision can be approved only after the Board conducts a public hearing and makes detailed findings. In 2020, there were no new applications for subdivision approval, however,

the Board continued to monitor the Haven Meadows subdivision proposal, which was the subject of numerous Conservation Commission hearings.

Site Plan Reviews: The Board conducts site plan review of certain proposed as-of-right uses before the Town issues a building permit. The review process regulates permitted uses by imposing conditions, limitations, and safeguards taking into consideration factors such as public safety, potential impacts on existing structures, open space and Town resources. In 2020, there were no applications for site plan review.

Sign Permits: The Board reviews sign applications and issues permits for signs. The number and nature of signs are of particular importance in preserving the Town's rural character. Although there were no sign applications in 2020, the Board amended its regulations to address sign maintenance and to clarify that once a sign was removed, a new application must be filed.

Scenic Road Applications: The Board has jurisdiction over the Town's 27 designated Scenic Roads. Before altering any trees or stone walls within a Scenic Road right-of-way, a property owner must obtain permission from the Planning Board at a public hearing. In 2020, the Board acted on two applications.

Approval Not Required (ANR) Plans: Under the state ANR process, the Board has the authority to endorse property owners' plans to create new lots on existing roads if the resulting lots comply with local zoning dimensional requirements and have adequate access. In 2020, the Board endorsed three ANR plans. Given the interest of nearby property owners in proposed ANRs, the Board continued its practice of giving informal notification to abutters of ANR applications.

Special Permits for Wireless Service Facilities: The Board is the Special Permit Granting Authority for certain land uses such as personal wireless service facilities and construction in the business, manufacturing, and medical-professional districts of Dover. In 2020, the Board approved two special permits for adding wireless equipment on the existing monopoles located at 2 Dedham Street and 9 County Street.

Other Business

Zoning Bylaw Amendment: In 2020, the Board prepared an amendment to Section 185-43 of the Zoning Bylaw (Accessory Apartments), with the expectation of bringing it to the 2020 Annual Town Meeting for a vote. The current Accessory Apartment Bylaw, added in 1986, is confusing and significantly limits the ability to develop an accessory dwelling unit (ADU). The amended bylaw will: apply to all single family structures in Dover,

not just those constructed before 1986; clarify that an ADU can be in a separate structure like a barn or other free-standing structure; and change square footage allowance for an ADU from 900 to 1,200 square feet. The bylaw mandates more restrictive side and rear-yard setbacks for ADUs and maintains the Zoning Board of Appeal as the Special Permit Granting Authority. The Board believes this bylaw amendment will benefit Dover as it will increase housing diversity without changing the Town's character. The Board was not able to present the bylaw amendment to Town Meeting due to COVID-19 and will pursue the passage of the amendment at the May 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

Dead-End Streets: The Board updated its regulation on dead-end streets by replacing Section 248-12E of the Town of Dover Bylaws in its entirety. The new regulation prohibits dead-end streets unless an applicant applies for a waiver that shows that the proposed dead-end street is in the public interest and meets certain design requirements and planning goals including: the preservation and/or enhancement of vistas, scenic or historic environs, stone walls, vegetation and trees, and topographical features; enhanced abutter privacy; and prevention or reduction of environmental impacts, including impacts to wetlands.

Recommendations to the BOS: The Board was asked to provide comments to the Board of Selectmen on a proposal for a Chapter 40B development at 61-63 County Street. The Board provided comments on the following areas of concern: availability of water, sight lines, traffic, lighting, impervious surfaces, and a building and site design that is incongruent with existing patterns of development. The Board noted that the location on Route 109 was a positive feature as the road could handle additional traffic, and it also commented that the rental nature of the project will expand housing diversity options in the Town, meeting a regional need for increased rental housing.

The Board was asked to provide comments to the Board of Selectmen on the acceptance of Stagecoach Lane as a public way. In 2019, the Board reviewed the as-built plan and determined that all associated infrastructure had been constructed according to the submitted Definitive Subdivision Plan. This year, the Board recommended that Stagecoach Lane be accepted as a public way, and that the Town accept an easement for access, plowing, and maintenance. Underground utilities in the roadway will remain private.

The Board's input was also requested by the Board of Selectmen regarding the exercise of a statutory right of first refusal for the purchase of a parcel of land on Dedham Street due to its MGL Chapter 61A tax status. The Board held a site visit and voted to recommend that the Town not acquire the parcel.

Appreciation

The Planning Board sends its sincere thanks to retiring Board member Henry Faulkner. Henry was recognized with a citation from State Representative Denise Garlick, as well as with a resolution from the Board of Selectmen for his 27 years of service as a Planning Board member. During his time on the Board, which included terms over the past five decades, Henry liaised with the Conservation Commission, the Open Space Committee, and served as a board member of the Dover Land Conservation Trust.



Photo by Howard Reisman.

Report of the Zoning Board of Appeals

R. Alan Fryer, Chair
Erika Alders, Member
LaVerne A. Lovell, Member
Michael Donovan, Associate Member
H. Hamilton Hackney, Associate Member

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) has jurisdiction over appeals from rulings of administrative officials of the Town made under the “Zoning Bylaw” or, if specifically required or allowed under the Bylaw, upon direct application under the Zoning Bylaw or Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), Chapter 40A. Depending upon the zoning district, certain uses of property also require prior approval of the ZBA. The ZBA has authority to grant a variance from the terms of the Zoning Bylaw under certain limited circumstances, and it also has jurisdiction to hear cases involving “Special Permit” requests and requests for Comprehensive Permits under MGL, Chapter 40B. Additionally, the Zoning Bylaw requires ZBA review of additional construction on land where existing structures or uses, due to changes in the Zoning Bylaw, have become nonconforming. While such structures or uses may remain in their current state, any alteration, addition, or expansion on the property requires ZBA approval. The ZBA is also responsible for reviewing and acting upon requests for approval of alteration or construction within 150 feet of specified water bodies in Dover, most notably the Charles River. Copies of the Zoning Bylaw and also of the ZBA’s governing rules are available from the Town Clerk.

The ZBA follows procedures designed to hear the concerns of all potentially interested parties and to consider whether the relief requested is appropriate under the Zoning Bylaw. Most applications to the ZBA are required to start at the Building Department, with a review of the proposed activity under the Zoning Bylaw and a written denial of the proposed activity from the Building Inspector, before the ZBA may consider an application. The ZBA acts on an application only after holding a public hearing, a notice of which must first be posted in the Town House, published in a local newspaper, and sent by mail to the applicants and other interested parties, as defined by law, including to the abutters of the property in question. Any interested party, whether or not entitled to receive notice of the hearing, may appear at the hearing and be heard. Evidence on the application continues to be received by the ZBA until the hearing is closed. Once the ZBA reaches a decision on an application, a decision is written and filed with the Town Clerk. Notice of the decision is given to the persons entitled to notice of the hearing, and the ZBA’s

decision becomes final after the legally prescribed appeal period, provided no appeal is taken.

During 2020, the Board received four applications.

The members of the ZBA wish to express their profound gratitude to Tobe Deutschmann for his long service as a member of the ZBA and for his service to the Town on the Board of Selectmen, the Warrant Committee, the Long Range Planning Committee, the Capital Budget Committee, the Police Chief Search Committee, and the Boy Scout Troop Committee. We will miss his sound judgment, his profound sense of fairness, and the wisdom that comes with the long institutional memory that he brought to bear. At the same time, we welcome the ZBA's newest member, Erika Alders.



Dover Union Iron Mill, Noanet Woodlands. Photo by Becky Gladstone.

Report of the Highway Department

Craig S. Hughes, Superintendent of Streets
John Robert Tosi Jr., Interim Superintendent of Streets

Maintenance

To more effectively control water runoff, berm was installed on Walpole Street, Centre Street, Crest Drive, and Village Hill Road. We continue to clean approximately 1,200 catch basins twice yearly as required by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and to haul the material to an approved disposal site.

We composted approximately 1,200 yards of leaves collected from the Transfer Station, which we spread on Walpole Street, Centre Street, Crest Drive, and Village Hill Road. We contracted out the painting of approximately 600,000 feet of pavement markings, crosswalks, and stop bars throughout the Town.

The summer brought many severe wind and rain storms to the region, bringing down many trees and limbs and causing several power outages. We cleaned up debris throughout the following month.

Tarvia

In keeping with our five-year pavement management plan, we applied approximately 1,600 tons of asphalt to Church Street, Forest Street, Pegan Lane, and the parking area at Caryl Fields.

Solid Waste (Transfer Station)

Dover residents threw away 1,348 tons of solid waste that was transported mainly by the Highway Department personnel in 134 trips to Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. Please refer to the report of the Recycling Committee (page 209) for the tonnage of recycled materials collected, which, due to historic pandemic year, has substantially increased. We are especially indebted to Wade Hayes and Bill Martin for keeping the Transfer Station open and operating throughout this stressful year.

Solid Waste Tonnage to Millbury

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
2,123	2,128	1,921	1,327	1,247	1,233	1,348

Per-Ton Tipping Fee (\$)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
74.81/	64.00/	64.00/	66.00/	67.17/	68.18/	68.97/
75.66	64.00	66.00	67.17	68.18	68.97	69.82

Cost for Solid Waste Disposal at Wheelabrator (\$)

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
159,749	136,216	124,832	88,331	84,409	85,881	93,825

Streetlights

The Town owns and maintains 67 overhead streetlights. Due to a power surge from one of the storms this summer we had to replace Dover's traffic signal control box, which is currently running smoothly.

State Aid (Chapter 90)

We did not use any state aid funds this year.

Snow and Ice

Winter 2019–20 brought approximately 19 inches of snow. The following log represents our responses to the season.

Date	Snow/Ice	Inches	Equipment Used
December 2019			
1–2	Snow	7	Sanders/Plows
3	Snow	5	Sanders/Plows
11	Snow	2.5	Sanders/Plows
17	Ice		Sanders
January 2020			
18–19	Snow	3	Sanders/Plows
February			
1	Snow	0.5	Sanders
6	Snow	1	Sanders
13	Ice		Sanders
14	Ice		Sanders

Garage Operation

The Town Garage was built in 1998 and continues to serve the Town well. It is occupied by the Highway Department, the Cemetery Department, and the Town Engineer. Space is also provided to the Parks and Recreation Department and the Water Department. I thank Karl Warnick and his staff for keeping the building in excellent shape.

Appreciation

Thanks go to my personnel, the Cemetery Department, and the Parks and Recreation Department for another good year of working together. I also recognize the boards and committees for their support and time. A big thank-you goes to the many groups who donate their time and materials to maintaining the various landscape islands throughout the Town: The Garden Continuum, Strawberry Hill Landscaping, and Betty Brady. Also, many thanks go to the Recycling Committee for their hours of work to promote and encourage the Town's recycling efforts. –Craig Hughes

Departmental Note

Craig Hughes officially retired after 34 years working for the Highway Department. A lifelong resident of Dover, his love for this Town was shown in how he operated “his” Department. Craig was very appreciative and supportive of his staff and was always available to help Dover residents in many ways. We owe him a lot. He will be greatly missed by all, and we wish him many good years in his retirement. Thank you, Craig!

John Robert (Bob) Tosi Jr., has stepped up to fill in and was appointed as interim superintendent of streets in December. We move forward with the Department in capable hands.



Dover-Needham Bridge. Photo by Carol Lisbon.

Report of the **Parks and Recreation Commission**

Chris Boland, Chair
Eric Loeffler, Treasurer
Jen Daman, Secretary
Peter Davies, Commissioner
Valerie Lin, Commissioner

Mark Ghiloni, Director, Parks and Recreation
Nicole DiCicco, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation
Beth McGuire, Programming Assistant
Tom Palmer, Groundskeeper/Heavy Equipment Operator
Mark Travers, Groundskeeper/Heavy Equipment Operator

The Parks and Recreation Department and its supervising Commission (collectively, P&R) provide Dover residents of all ages with positive recreational experiences through a variety of high-quality programs, activities, and services under the direction of a professional and hard-working staff that is responsive to the changing needs of the community. We are committed to preserving and protecting the natural resources and parkland while improving and enhancing all opportunities for future generations. While many of our programs were canceled, postponed, or significantly altered this year, our recreational and athletic programs continue to benefit from public, private, and volunteer partnerships. Parental involvement and volunteerism are essential to sustaining our programs, as is collaboration from other Town departments. We thank everyone who assisted us throughout the past year.

COVID-19 Report

From the first chaotic days of the pandemic in March, P&R followed all emergency protocols as the crisis evolved, working closely with the Board of Health, the Board of Selectmen, the chiefs of the Police and Fire Departments, the EMS coordinator, and the Council on Aging director. As a member of the Dover COVID-19 Task Force, Director Mark Ghiloni helped coordinate town-wide containment and mitigation strategies and shared the relevant information he had gleaned from meetings with the National Recreation and Park Association, the Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association, and neighboring town parks and recreation departments.

In 2020, P&R applied for federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds for COVID-related office and programming expenses. The Department used its social media platforms and newsletters

to promote the Town's COVID-19 communications page, as well as to share infographics from the Mass.gov and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) websites to keep the community informed, healthy, and safe.

Although many of our programs were paused or canceled, we took the opportunity to consider ways in which the Department needed to adjust to the new normal and follow trends emerging from the pandemic. Namely, P&R shifted from in-person group programming and events to individual and family-focused outdoor programs and virtual programs.

As the Commonwealth gradually reopened parks and fields in the summer months, P&R adapted. The Department posted signs at each facility, and locations and activities were monitored by P&R staff, with the support of the Police Department. The community also stepped up and demonstrated prudent self-monitoring.

P&R Assistant Director Nicole DiCicco deftly modified the Department's popular Summer Playground program to conform to Massachusetts' guidelines. She hired and trained staff remotely, and promoted and registered participants. The reimagined, and renamed, Summer Club saw no COVID-19 cases or outbreaks occur and served as a model for our fall season outdoor offerings.

The Caryl Community Center's continued closure due to inadequate ventilation led to additional program cancellations through to the end of the year. The staff used the Town House's Great Hall to provide limited programming as the weather changed, but we were unable to secure an ongoing alternative space for the winter months. We look forward to the public returning to the Caryl building in 2021.

Throughout the year, the staff remained busy planning new programs, researching and initiating virtual activities, and enhancing current offerings to support the recreational needs of various age groups.

Spring Programs

In 2020, the vast majority of P&R's spring programming and events were canceled and refunds were issued to those people who had already registered. All in-person programming was prohibited to comply with the stay-at-home order issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The following spring programs and events were canceled:

- Spring Egg Hunt and the Eliot Hodgkins Fishing Derby at Channing Pond
- Spring Break All-Star Sports Program
- Coach Pete's Sports Programs (Lacrosse, T-Ball/Baseball, Soccer, and Flag Football)
- Dover-Sherborn Youth Baseball and Softball Club (DSYBS)
- PROformance Soccer

- Adult Exercise Classes, Zumba Gold, and Pickleball
- Musical Theater and Hip Hop Dance Classes
- Dover Youth Tennis Tournament and Tennis Lessons with Peter Cooper
- Tae Kwon Do with Master Jean Theodat
- Powisset Farm/Rocky Woods cooking and nature programs
- Funtastic Workshops CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (new for 2020)
- Ice Skating Lessons

P&R instead shifted its focus to virtual and online programming during the height of the spring pandemic surge. The Babysitting 101 and Home Alone Safety Training Courses became virtual classes, with five participants, and the Department engaged with Dover residents through social media platforms. P&R also held virtual storytimes and exercise classes, and it promoted messages from the Board of Health, the State of Massachusetts, and the CDC as the community adjusted to Governor Baker's stay-at-home orders.

Summer Programs

Summer Club: Forty returning families who had registered their children for Summer Playground in 2019, along with 17 first-timers, participated in the condensed version of the club held this year. P&R worked closely



Summer Club. Photo courtesy of Dover Parks and Recreation.

with the Board of Health and strictly followed CDC guidelines for health and safety. The program ran three mornings per week throughout the summer, with an additional session added in the first week of September due to the late start of school. An average of 40 elementary-school-aged children attended the sessions each week. With the Chickering Elementary School campus closed throughout July and August, the program was held outside behind the Caryl Community Center, with 200 children in grades K–5 participating over the five total weeks offered. Fourteen Dover high school and college students served as counselors, and activities were planned and managed by adult supervisors. The program was extremely successful and provided the young participants with urgently needed social engagement time that most of them had missed during the spring school closures. It also provided the counselors with invaluable experience to add to their resumes.

Free Family Fun Hikes

Twelve families joined Assistant Director DiCicco on a Monday or Friday morning hike through some of Dover's beautiful trails for four weeks in July and August. Twenty-four children participated, many of whom requested that the hikes be continued into the fall. Nicole incorporated nature education and an art project into each hike. The program was run in partnership with the Open Space Committee.

Tennis Lessons with Peter Cooper

More than 100 students worked on their tennis skills with Peter during the summer months. Lesson structure ranged from private instruction to group instruction of up to four participants who met at the Caryl Park tennis courts. Families often enrolled their children in lessons together or with others in their "pod" to reduce their COVID risk.

Esports

P&R researched esports (electronic sports) hosting service options to find popular age-appropriate games that aligned with the Department's goals and technical specifications. P&R's pilot program of competitive, organized video-gaming was launched in summer 2020 and offered Rocket League, a popular hybrid car-racing/soccer video game. Registrations for esports increased from nine participants in the pilot summer session to 20 by the end of the year. P&R will continue to evaluate and develop the program to engage gamers in this trending sport.

Junior Golf Program

Twelve youth golfers participated in the Junior Golf program that was held for three weeks in July at the Maplegate Country Club in Bellingham, MA. P&R worked with Maplegate to ensure that all COVID-19-related protocols were followed.

The following summer programs and events were canceled:

- MetroWest SportsCenter Baseball Clinics

- Summer Concerts on the Common and School's Out June Concert featuring Knucklebones games
- Summer Skills Basketball Clinics at the Charles River School
- Coach Pete's All Star Sports, Summer T-Ball/Baseball, and the Dover-Sherborn Middle School Travel Program
- Tennis Clinics

Fall Programs

Halloween Pumpkin Decorating Event

On Halloween afternoon, masked families arrived at the Caryl Community Center parking lot and were directed to their own table complete with decorating materials and a pumpkin for each child. Five time slots were available to keep families safe and well distanced, which allowed 57 costumed participants to enjoy creating their masterpieces. Each child also left with P&R bags filled with treats and prizes.

Virtual Halloween Costume Contest

P&R's first annual Costume Contest was held virtually, with families submitting their photo entries via social media and e-mail. Children and families competed in four categories: age groups PreK–1, grades 2–4, grades 5–8, and a family/group category. The virtual contest was well received with 41 contestant entries. Prizes were awarded to the top three contestants in each category. The panel of judges included a *Hometown Weekly* editor who covered the event for the paper.

Caryl Art Club

Assistant Director DiCicco ran this program outdoors from August through October, which averaged 14 participants each three-week session. Nearly three-quarters of the participants registered for all three months, allowing them to form longer-term friendships with their fellow young artists and the instructor. Two large tents located at the far corner of the Caryl Community Center parking lot accommodated the weekly projects. Minimal rain or snow days meant few cancellations due to weather through the month of October. In November, the program was moved into the Great Hall in the Town House where it continued until the end of the year.

Hikes & Crafts/Private Group Hikes

In 2020, the previous no-fee Family Fun Hikes shifted to a fee-based, drop-off program and was renamed Hikes & Crafts. Between August and November, Assistant Director DiCicco led between two and five children along various Dover trails, with each session culminating in a seasonal nature-based craft. She also offered birthday and special-event hikes that were perfect for small socially distanced gatherings.

PROformance Soccer Clinics

This popular soccer program focused on skill building during a five-day clinic was held in late August and hosted 20 participants ages 6–11. An eight-week fall session met on Tuesdays with 28 participants ages 6–11. All staff and participants complied with COVID-19 protocols. We were unable to bring PROformance inside the Caryl Community Center in December, as the building remained closed to the public.

Tennis Lessons with Peter Cooper

Tennis lessons continued through October at the Caryl Park tennis courts with 61 participants ranging in age from five to 49 years.

Esports: Metrowest League

Dover P&R teamed up with the recreation departments of Norwood, Medfield, and Medway using the GGLeagues platform. Dover gamers engaged in some neighborly competition among Metrowest towns in games such as Madden, Super Mario Smash Bros, and Fortnite. The league cross-promoted using hashtags such as #metrowestrecreation, #massrpa, #doveresportsleague, and each participating town's social media tag (for example, #doverrec).

The following fall programs and events were canceled:

- Dover Days Fair (including the Dover Dash 5K and Fun Run)
- Coach Pete's Sports Programs (Lacrosse, Flag Football, and Baseball/T-Ball)
- Ice Skating Lessons
- Musical Theater and Hip Hop Dance Classes
- Tae Kwon Do

Winter Programs

Hikes & Crafts

Dover families continued to express interest in this program with 11 children signed up for December weekly hikes. Participants dressed for the weather and Assistant Director DiCicco planned appropriate crafts to attempt in the cold outdoors.

Ice Skating at Channing Pond: We continued to open the pond for winter skating as often as weather and temperatures allowed. Safety and ice conditions are our top priority. We always hope that temperatures cooperate and that we have long stretches of skating throughout the winter.

Ice Skating Lessons: Our partnership with the Skating Club of Boston/Boston Skating Academy is ongoing. Classes offered through P&R are held exclusively at the new Norwood facility. The Micheli Center boasts three

rinks, including an Olympic-size arena. This great local program offers instruction at various levels and types of skating and helps participants progress and refine their skating skills.

Winter Ski and Board Program: This ski and snowboard lesson program for students ages 7–15 returned to Blue Hills Ski Area in Canton, MA, for five consecutive Wednesdays. The maximum number of participants allowed was scaled back due to COVID-19 restrictions, with Dover registering nine students.

Esports Metrowest Tournament: The Metrowest League expanded to include all of parks and recreation departments in the original towns plus Franklin, Ashland, Millis, and Holliston. Six gamers chose to compete in four different video games in December. The Metrowest League also offered three days of tournament play during the school winter break with three different video games, as well.

The following winter programs and events were canceled:

- Winter Tree Lighting and Cookie Decorating Event
- Indoor Tennis Lessons
- Intramural Basketball
- Coach Pete's Sports Programs (Basketball, Floor Hockey, and Wacky Wednesdays)
- D-S Middle School Ski Program at Nashoba Valley
- PROformance Soccer
- Musical Theater and Hip Hop Dance Classes
- Tae Kwon Do
- Adult Exercise Classes, Zumba Gold, and Pickleball

Facilities and Parks

In addition to providing programming in the Caryl Community Center, P&R maintains park areas for the enjoyment of Dover residents and non-residents alike. Caryl Park, Channing Pond, and the Riverside Drive boat landing are popular recreational destinations. Five smaller park parcels in Town are maintained by P&R, as are lands surrounding Chickering School, the Town Library, the Protective Agencies Building, and the Town House. P&R's vehicles and heavy equipment are located and maintained at the Town Garage.

Caryl Community Center: The building was closed to the public for nine and a half months in 2020 due to health and safety concerns. In August, the Town hired a firm to determine if the air quality and ventilation systems in the building fell within state standards. After the firm recommended

essential remediations, the Board of Health decided that the building would remain closed to the public until work on it was completed. The P&R staff and the Council on Aging staff continued working in their offices while following safety protocols. We hope that the building will reopen to lessees and the public in January 2021.

Director Mark Ghiloni and the P&R Commission worked with the Community Center Building Committee, the architect firm of Fennick McCredie Architecture, and the Caryl Management Advisory Committee to prepare final proposals to be voted on at a Special Town Meeting in 2021 by attendees who will choose between renovating the current building or constructing a new one.

Parks: P&R saw a significant increase in park, playground, and trail usage throughout the year as public health officials recommended people recreate outdoors. Dover community members, especially families, took advantage of the Town's open spaces for exercise and as a safer means of conducting socially distanced meetings.

The Department completed a number of maintenance projects throughout the year, which included the Caryl Park field parking-lot pavement project, which resolved the issue of reoccurring potholes due to rain and snow, and which also resulted in an improved parking experience. In 2021, the remainder of the lot will be paved and a new field sign will be installed. P&R will continue to research ways to improve our parklands, working to make them top-of-mind destinations for community members and visitors alike.



Photo by James Kinneen; courtesy of The Hometown Weekly.

Athletic Fields: P&R's athletic fields are used by the Department and by local youth sports clubs, which include Dover-Sherborn Soccer, Dover-Sherborn Youth Lacrosse, Dover-Sherborn Girls Lacrosse, and Dover-Sherborn Youth Baseball and Softball. P&R maintains three rectangular multipurpose sports fields—two at Chickering Fields and one at Caryl Park. There are also two baseball diamonds—one at Chickering Fields and one at Caryl Park.

P&R is committed to providing all youth athletic teams with safe, high-quality playing surfaces throughout their playing seasons. Field use was limited and monitored to comply with state and federal regulations. The drought negatively impacted the fields due to decreased watering, as well.

During the summer, the playing fields are normally closed. However, P&R received many requests for use from youth groups, families, and individuals, and so the Commission agreed to allow organized activities on the Caryl Park field as long as the groups submitted COVID-19 plans and agreed to comply with state guidelines. Chickering Fields remained open to residents during daylight hours.

Dover-Sherborn Middle School field hockey merged with other local groups to form the Dover-Sherborn Youth Field Hockey League. The league and the soccer groups were back on the fields in the fall months under a modified format to follow state COVID-19 guidelines. We have received and will display new Caryl Park field signs in spring 2021, thus beginning phase one of P&R's town-wide facility signage improvement effort.



Photo courtesy of Dover Parks and Recreation.

Appreciation

We thank all members of the Parks and Recreation Department for their dedication in coordinating programs, events, and playfields. We extend a special thank-you to P&R Director Mark Ghiloni for calmly leading the staff through the pandemic with good judgment and patience. Mark continues to play a significant role in advocating the goals and vision of the Department as the Town moves forward with its Caryl Community Center building plans, as well. Finally, our sincere thanks go out to all the volunteers and staff members who help the Department. Our staff continues to maintain a high standard for outdoor spaces and quality programming, and our volunteers have been outstanding, as always, by providing children with the opportunity to learn and grow through our programs. The contributions of these individuals are greatly appreciated by the children and their families, and we add our own heartfelt thanks.

Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund

For the Year Ending June 30, 2020

	FY20 Reserve Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenses	Over/ Loss	FY20 Ending Balance
Program					
Baseball Coaches Academy	\$0	\$560	\$(1,615)	\$(1,055)	\$(1,055)
Baseball/Softball/T-Ball Spring	14,057	23,765	(11,498)	12,267	26,324
Basketball Intramural	0	11,407	(5,411)	5,996	5,996
Coach Pete Programs	15,000	40,245	(37,170)	3,075	18,075
Dover Days Fair	5,000	4,837	(5,370)	(533)	4,467
Field Hockey	5,000	800	(6,016)	(5,216)	(216)
Fishing Derby	1,200	20	(20)	0	1,200
Misc./Overhead	0	4,155	(1,153)	3,002	3,002
Other Programs	5,000	8,819	(4,060)	4,759	9,759
Programming with PROformance Soccer	0	18,480	(18,336)	144	144
Programs with Powisset Farm	0	1,950	(975)	975	975
Ski Programs	5,000	22,678	(24,925)	(2,247)	2,753
Summer Concerts	4,000	0	(4,400)	(4,400)	(400)
Summer Playground	25,000	65,720	(57,542)	8,178	33,178
Tae Kwon Do	6,081	12,272	(12,235)	37	6,118
Tennis	43,809	58,185	(49,120)	9,065	52,874
Theater and Dance Programs	0	1,460	(1,450)	10	10
Program Totals	\$129,147	\$275,353	\$(241,295)	\$34,058	\$163,205

(Continued next page)

Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund

For the Year Ending June 30, 2020 (cont'd from previous page)

	FY20 Reserve Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenses	Over/ Loss	FY20 Ending Balance
Operations					
AED Replacement	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Benches for Channing Pond	1,000	0	0	0	1,000
Caryl Park Tennis Court Lights	0	0	0	0	0
Caryl Parking Lot Paving	0	0	0	0	0
Caryl School Repair	10,000	0	0	0	10,000
Chairs for Programs	1,200	0	(526)	(526)	674
Channing Pond Maintenance	30,000	0	0	0	30,000
Credit Card Fees	11,000	0	(7,541)	(7,541)	3,459
Development of New and Current Programs	14,760	0	(1,111)	(1,111)	13,649
Equipment Room Organization	3,009	0	0	0	3,009
Field Maintenance	64,000	24,474	(50,860)	(26,386)	37,614
Field Signage	10,000	0	0	0	10,000
Irrigation Wells Maintenance	45,297	0	(960)	(960)	44,337
Maintenance Equipment	3,456	0	(775)	(775)	2,681
Marketing for Programs	9,204	0	(1,889)	(1,889)	7,315
New Water Fountain Caryl Park/Chickering	0	0	0	0	0
Office Equipment	4,050	0	0	0	4,050
Part-time Staff	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
Porta Pots	5,500	0	(1,390)	(1,390)	4,110
Printing	3,500	1,512	(4,553)	(3,041)	459
Registration Software and Website	11,000	0	(4,076)	(4,076)	6,924
Renovate Baseball Fields and Install Dugouts	27,751	0	0	0	27,751
Shed Conversion	10,000	0	0	0	10,000
Sheds	5,000	0	0	0	5,000
Split Rail Fence	3,464	0	(330)	(330)	3,134
Summer Playground Technology	3,500	0	0	0	3,500
Tennis Court Repair	68,570	0	0	0	68,570
Operations Totals	\$348,261	\$25,986	\$(74,010)	\$(48,024)	\$300,236
Unreserved Funds	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Reserve Fund Totals	\$487,407	\$301,339	\$(315,305)	\$(13,966)	\$473,441

Report of the Conservation Commission

John Sullivan, Chair
Amey Moot, Secretary
Tim Holiner
Jim McLaughlin
Sarah Monaco
David Stapleton
Christy Violin

Janet Bowser, Consultant Agent

The Conservation Commission consists of seven voting members and two open associate member positions. The volunteer commissioners are supported by a contracted agent and part-time administrator. The Commission is responsible for safeguarding wetland resources under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act, the Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw, and the Rules and Regulations for the Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Wetlands are protected by a 150-foot buffer zone, and rivers by a 200-foot riverfront zone. Wetlands and buffer zones offer flood control, prevention of storm damage, prevention of pollution, and preservation of groundwater, water supply, and wildlife habitat. Work performed in these and other areas requires a permit from the Conservation Commission and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

In 2020, the Commission heard 13 notices of intent, including amendments (permit applications), four abbreviated notices of resource area delineation (to confirm bordering vegetated wetlands and other resource areas), and seven requests for determination of applicability (to decide if a permit is needed). Additionally, the Commission entertained many informal discussions with homeowners regarding the disposition of their properties that lie in proximity to wetland resources. The Commission also issued 22 certificates of compliance (to close out permitted work) and seven enforcement orders (illegal work related to clearing and filling in jurisdictional areas).

In addition to safeguarding wetlands, streams and rivers, the Commission is responsible for the stewardship of Dover-owned conservation lands totaling over 573 acres. These include Wylde Woods (200 acres), Snow Hill (almost 100 acres), Valley Farm (66 acres), 46R Springdale Avenue (24 acres), and Powisset Farm Woods (33 acres). The Commission continues to work on land management for their conservation properties, including perimeter field mowing and invasive plant removal to encourage

walking paths. On behalf of the Town, the Commission accepted a generous donation of a 6-acre parcel on Wilson's Way, and it joined the Board of Selectmen in supporting the acceptance of several new conservation restrictions held by the Dover Land Conservation Trust, to ensure further protection in perpetuity of important natural resources on several parcels of land.

Additionally, the Commission completed revisions to Town of Dover Code, Chapter 263, Rules and Regulations for the Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaw. The changes increased protected resource-area buffer zones to 150 feet, thereby increasing the no-structure and no-disturb buffer zones within the 150 feet to provide added protection to valuable resource areas.

The Commission cordially invites you to its meetings, which are open to the public and held twice monthly on Wednesday evenings. Check the Town website at www.doverma.org for meeting dates, times, and agendas. For questions about wetlands or projects on your property, please contact the Commission's office at Lhagerty@doverma.org or 508-785-0032, extension 233.



Photo by Judy Ballantine.

Report of the Tree Committee

John M. Devine, Chair
John Gilbert
Bob Tosi

The Town of Dover is a predominantly residential community with a strong commitment to the preservation of its land and large population of trees. The Tree Committee is responsible for the stewardship of trees located within the Town's rights-of-way. This responsibility includes the care and maintenance of shade and ornamental trees, the removal of dead and hazardous trees, and the emergency removal of storm-damaged trees.

In 2020, replacement trees and plantings were purchased for Dedham Street and Centre Street locations.

The Committee would like to thank the dedicated residents and garden club members who donate their time and services in helping maintain Dover's beautiful country charm. We would like to give special thanks to Betty Brady for her generous time devoted to the Town.

We look forward to another year of progress and urge residents to present us with ideas regarding plantings on Town property. Frequently asked questions can be found at www.doverma.org. Committee members can be reached by leaving a message on the Police Department's non-emergency line at (508) 785-1130.



Juvenile red-tailed hawk. Photo by Mary Kalamaras.

Report of the Tree Warden

John Gilbert

Removals/Pruning

In 2020, multiple storms caused heavy damage. Dead and damaged trees were removed on an as-needed basis, and tree contractors and the Highway Department responded for clean-up. Annual prunings and removals were carried out in the cemetery.

Insect and Disease Problems

No gypsy moth or winter moth damage was reported. The emerald ash borer has infested trees in Dover. Some of the symptoms of infestation by this invasive beetle species include a thin tree crown, small exit holes, and woodpecker damage. Early detection is important as heavily infested trees will not survive. Contact a tree specialist if infestation is suspected.

Parts of Worcester County are under quarantine for the Asian longhorned beetle. For more information, contact the Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program at (508) 852-8090.



Photo courtesy of the Dover Town Report Committee.

Report of the Fence Viewers

James P. Dawley Jr.
Candace McCann

Chapter 49 of the Massachusetts General Laws provides the Town fence viewers with their responsibilities: Fences are to be maintained by their owners and be 4 feet high and in good repair. Fences may be constructed out of rails, timber, boards, iron, or stone.

Fence viewers settle disputes between neighbors and “shall be paid at the rate of \$5 a day for the time during which he is employed” and may take no less than \$1. Fees are to be paid by the parties in dispute. In 2020, there were no requests from residents for our services.

The history of fence viewers in New England began in 1644 when the Connecticut Colony enacted fence legislation because of insufficient fences and unruly cattle. Fence viewers were appointed to survey the condition of fences and ensure that their owners maintained them.

As we drive along the roads of Dover, we see many types of fences under construction and many being reconstructed. We are no longer as concerned with unruly animals as we are about safety and the aesthetics of fences and gates. It is highly recommended that Dover’s citizens check the Town’s building code and confer with the building inspector when considering the installation of a stone wall, fence, or gate to ensure that any right-of-way and traffic sightline issues, designated Scenic Road considerations for trees and stone walls, and height restrictions are taken into account.



Photo by Jennifer Luethy.

Report of the Recycling Committee

Christopher Poulsen, Chair
Janit Greenwood
Carol Lisbon
Wendy Muellers
Leesa Mullin
Lindsay Nie

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the year 2020 required us to make significant modifications to the physical plant and operations of the Transfer Station. In March, the annual Spring Clean-Up of Dover’s roads was put on hold; the deposit trailer, Mary’s Swap Shop, furniture shed, and book and textile recycling bins were closed; and the sale of all types of recycling bins was suspended at the Transfer Station and Town Garage. Parking spots at the Transfer Station were changed to alternate spaces, and a one-way path to the cardboard container was designed. Hand sanitizer stations were placed around the Transfer Station, and our electronic sign was used to convey social distancing and new policy reminders. The Dover Recycling Committee (DRC) thanks the Transfer Station staff and Highway Department for their quick response to the pandemic, which allowed the Transfer Station to stay open safely, as it was deemed an essential service by the Commonwealth.

In the nine months that followed, the Committee worked closely with the Board of Health and Highway Department to resume certain facility functions and to develop “new normal” procedures and signage to ensure the safety of Dover citizens and Transfer Station staff.

The book and textile bins were reopened in June. To handle the increased volume of textiles, Bay State Textiles replaced its two bins in October with a large 16 x 8-foot trailer capable of holding 4,000 pounds and featuring two easier-to-use openings. Our two Red Cross bins continued to be used as well. In only eight months of book bin operation, Dover residents dropped off more than 31,000 books! In July, a second book bin was put into commission for use by More Than Words.

Although Mary’s Swap Shop remained closed in 2020, its space was converted to the deposit container shed, which now houses the deposit trailer that was reopened in July under approved COVID mitigation procedures. After our deposit vendor, Bullards, stopped accepting bulk deposits, we identified a new vendor, Walpole Redemption Center, which ultimately did not meet our needs. Three months later, the Committee found Boston Redemption Center based in Hyde Park. Due to its greater distance from Dover, however, it was with much regret that we had to suspend the use of

Dover nonprofits to service the deposit shed. The Highway Department now delivers the containers to the redemption center, with the proceeds going to the Town's General Fund, as with all other proceeds from recycling materials.

As for Mary's Swap Shop, the planning that began in late 2019 to redesign it as a larger, more efficient space, with more focused operations, has accelerated. Although these plans will be subject to grants and available funds, we hope a new swap shop will open sometime in 2021.

Moving forward, the DRC, along with the Highway Department, will continue evaluating the layout of the Transfer Station to improve ease-of-use and provide space for additional collection items.

Waste Disposal and Recycling Activity

In 2020, the safety precautions and quarantine procedure put in place throughout Massachusetts clearly had an impact on Dover's total solid waste disposal (trash plus bulky items) plus recyclables. As expected, solid waste was up 7% and total recyclables were up 15%. Recyclable tonnage as a percentage of total solid waste plus recyclable tonnage reached an all-time high of 37.4%. Of particular note was the increase in cardboard (up 43%), glass (up 44%), and plastics, which nearly doubled. The glass volume is a result of glass bottles not being accepted at the deposit shed for nine months and reinforces how important glass bottle recycling is to the environment and our budget.

The DRC provides Town residents with community education information and announcements through two local newspapers, along with Facebook, NextDoor.com, the Town website, and strategically located electronic signage. Capabilities of the new Town website have allowed us to enhance the Transfer Station sticker application process, which can now be completed online as well as at the Transfer Station.

The sale of recycling bins, composters, and rain barrels was restarted at the Transfer Station in August. During 2020, a total of 72 recycling containers were sold to residents, up from 68 in 2019, despite nearly five months of closure due to COVID-19.

The Dover Special Recycling Weekends held in June and October continue to be very popular, with more than 16,000 pounds of confidential documents shredded, 40 bikes reused and given to Bikes Not Bombs, and 120 tires recycled. The Committee would like to thank Dover Country Properties for its continued support of the shredding program and the Dover Mobil Station for the tire recycling program. With the closure of the furniture shed we recognized an accumulating volume of used furniture disposed of in household trash. To address this issue, we partnered with the New Life Furniture Bank of MA during our October weekend. They provided a truck and collected 15 large pieces of furniture. Due to its great success, we hope to continue the relationship on a more regular basis in 2021.

Another significant event organized by the DRC is the Dover Spring Clean-Up. Although canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic, the Committee

has already secured approval from the Board of Health for new COVID-19 mitigation procedures, and it looks forward to holding this event in April 2021.

Grants

In September 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) announced that Dover had received a \$4,200 Recycling Dividends Program grant in recognition of its programs and policies to maximize waste reduction, reuse, and recycling. The \$13,500 Mattress Recycling Incentive grant received in 2019 from MassDEP was used to acquire a large walk-in container that now allows us to collect mattresses and box springs throughout the year. This service was activated in November.

Appreciation

The DRC is grateful to Dover-Sherborn High School senior Katherine Whittle for her efforts on special projects as an intern for the Committee. Katherine and the Committee continue to collaborate at the Regional Schools to promote student participation in the April 2021 Dover and Sherborn Spring Clean-Ups.

The DRC would like to thank departing member Savita Shukla, whose term expired in June, for her many years of service on the Committee. We also thank dedicated Town employees Bill Martin and Wade Hayes, who work tirelessly to maintain the Transfer Station and who have used their diligence and creativity to keep us safe during this difficult year. A very special thank-you must be extended to Superintendent of Streets Craig Hughes, who retired in November. Craig's supervision over the decades is directly responsible for our wonderful Transfer Station. His leadership and willingness to act as the trash and recycling industry has changed and progressed is evident in our facility, of which we should all be proud.

Finally, the DRC thanks Dover residents for their adherence to the new policies and procedures, and for their efforts to reuse items, reduce trash, and increase recyclables. You can find more information about the Transfer Station's trash and recycling services and programs via the "Transfer Station" quick link on the Town of Dover website (www.doverma.org).

Solid Waste and Recycling Data

For the Calendar Year 2020

	2020	2019	2015	2005
Solid Waste (tons)¹				
Refuse/Bulky Items	239	229	n/a	n/a
Trash	1,065	987	n/a	n/a
Total Solid Waste*	1,305	1,216	2,128	2,488
Recyclables (tons)				
Mixed Paper (all types) ¹	110	140	190	431
Cardboard	213	149	131	82
Glass	110	76	93	88
Single Stream ²	0	0	117	n/a
Metal (cans and scrap)	114	114	51	135
Plastic (non-deposit #1-#7)	120	62	46	16
Electronics	17	15	25	32
Textiles ³	15	13	12	n/a
Books	16	14	8	n/a
Comingled Containers ²	0	0	0	17
Mattresses & Boxsprings	4	9	n/a	n/a
Special Events ⁴	10	11	4	n/a
Food Scraps ⁵	40	55	52	n/a
Deposit Trailer Containers ⁶	12	22	20	15
Other	0	0	0	3
Total Recyclables*	780	678	749	819
Total Solid Waste and Recyclables^{1*}	2,084	1,894	2,877	3,307
Percentage (%) Recyclables to Total ¹	37.4	35.8	26.0	24.8
Households in Town (HHs) ⁷	2,150	2,144	1,995	1,958
HHs Using Private Haulers ⁸	635	635	n/a	n/a
Households Using Transfer Station (TS)	1,515	1,509	1,995	1,958
Solid Waste (lb.) per HH User of TS	1,722	1,612	2,134	2,541
Deposit Shed Containers (~ units) ⁹	161,536	284,349	259,100	198,210
Recycle Bins Sold (Town Garage/TS)	72	68	n/a	n/a
Motor Oil (gal.)	800	800	550	800
Misc. Fluorescent Bulbs (LF)	12,919	6,925	2,732	1,005
Small Batteries (non-auto, lb.)	166	268	377	72

Comparison (% Change)		
1-Year	5-Year	15-Year
4	n/a	n/a
8	n/a	n/a
7	(39)	(48)
n/a	n/a	n/a
n/a	n/a	n/a
(22)	(42)	(75)
43	62	159
44	18	25
n/a	n/a	n/a
(0)	123	(16)
94	162	653
10	(34)	(48)
15	24	n/a
11	94	n/a
n/a	n/a	n/a
(58)	n/a	n/a
(5)	160	n/a
(27)	(23)	n/a
(45)	(40)	(20)
n/a	n/a	n/a
15	4	(5)
10	(28)	(37)
5	44	51
0	8	10
0	n/a	n/a
0	(24)	(23)
7	(19)	(32)
(43)	(38)	(19)
6	n/a	n/a
0	45	0
87	373	1,185
(38)	(1)	131

* Solid waste and recycling numbers have been rounded to the nearest ton

¹ 2003-16 Includes Dover Trucking (mixed paper only includes DT for 2003-12)

² 2013-16 Dover Trucking (started single stream in 2013, eliminating contributions to mixed paper and comingles)

³ Textile bins Transfer Station (Red Cross & Bay State), excluding D-S High School & D-S Middle School (Bay State Textiles)

⁴ Private document shredding; tire recycling; bicycle reuse

⁵ Invoice based from Aug 2019; prior estimated based on 10 lb./week/participating HH (versus 14% or 5.4 lb./week per MassDEP and 20 lb./week per Sherborn)

⁶ Based on actual counts from September 2020; estimate restated from 2017, assuming 35% of containers are glass and 2.67 glass bottles/lb. (170 g. per bottle) and 30.23 cans/plastic per lb. (15 g. per can/plastic)

⁷ Population/HHs per Town Report/census data

⁸ Number of Dover HHs reported as customers at year end by private haulers 2003-18; Estimated for 2019 and 2020

⁹ Estimated quantity based on proceeds

Report of the Inspector of Buildings

Walter Avallone, Commissioner/Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer
Felix Zemel, Local Building Inspector
Susan Young, Administrative Assistant

The Building Department is responsible for reviewing applications and plans to construct, alter, or demolish any building or structure in Dover for compliance with applicable Dover Zoning Bylaws; Massachusetts State Gas, Plumbing, Electrical, and Building Codes; and Chapter 40A and the Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) relating to construction and zoning.

Inspectors make field inspections of buildings at various stages of construction, and also inspect all public buildings, churches, and public and private schools on a yearly basis. The Department also responds to inquiries from attorneys, land surveyors, banks, and the general public regarding zoning and building-code issues. It reviews and issues permits for floating docks as required by MGL Chapter 91: Waterways Permitting.

More than 1,400 inspections were performed in 2020 for work constructed under a building permit. Of the 10 new house permits issued, five were for the demolition of an existing house to be replaced by new construction, leaving five new residences in Dover. Inspectors completed 25 annual life and fire safety inspections for public buildings, schools, nurseries, churches, and private organizations, and a total of four common victualler license inspections for food preparation businesses.

	Applications	Fees	Value
2018			
New Homes	15	\$107,657	\$11,586,340
Schools	0	0	0
Additions, Remodels, Other	343	151,304	9,776,976
Totals	358	\$303,038	\$21,363,316
2019			
New Homes	7	\$47,442	\$5,753,560
Schools	0	0	0
Additions, Remodels, Other	368	178,026	31,043,628
Totals	375	\$225,468	\$36,797,188
2020			
New Homes	10	\$80,842	\$7,940,540
Schools	0	0	0
Additions, Remodels, Other	369	164,953	14,786,144
Totals	379	\$245,795	\$22,726,684

Report of the Inspector of Wiring

Kevin Malloy, Wiring Inspector
James Murphy, Alternate Inspector
Paul Angus, Second Alternate Inspector

During 2020, a total of 252 wiring permits were issued, many of which required multiple inspections. In some situations, violations were noted and corrections were made. Any open permits from 2020 will be inspected and closed out in 2021.

The Inspector of Wiring can be contacted at 508-785-0032, extension 245, for any concerns related to wiring permits. You may also register a complaint or check on an electrician's license.



Photo by Jennifer Luethy.

Report of the **Plumbing and Gas Inspector**

James Vaughan, Inspector of Plumbing and Gas
Jeffrey Harris, Alternate Inspector of Plumbing and Gas
Michael Guida, Second Alternate Inspector of Plumbing and Gas

During 2020, a total of 145 plumbing and 132 gas permits were issued. Rough and final inspections were made for both plumbing and gas permits for a minimum of 550 required inspections.

In some situations, violations were found and corrected with a follow-up inspection to finalize the inspection process. Any open permits from 2019 will be inspected and closed out in 2020.



Lewis Hill. Photo by Peter Juo.

Report of the **Open Space Committee**

Amey Moot, Chair
Mark Adamczyk
Henry Faulkner, Planning Board (to October)
Boynton Glidden
Fred Hartman
Tim Holiner, Conservation Commission
Greg Kahoun
Justine Kent-Uritam
Valerie Lin
Carol Lisbon, Planning Board (from November)
Tara Nolan
Connie Sullivan (from September)
Paul Wood (to August)
Jerry Arnold, Long Range Planning Committee Liaison
John Jeffries, Board of Selectmen Liaison

The Open Space Committee (OSC) became a permanent Town government committee in 2001. Its primary purpose is to update the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) in accordance with Massachusetts laws and regulations. The current plan is available on the OSC's page of the Town website (www.doverma.org). The OSC assists other Town boards in managing the recreation and conservation lands under its jurisdiction. It also strives to provide information on Dover's many open spaces and to encourage Dover residents to enjoy them.

Since there are many governmental and nonprofit entities with lands under its control, the OSC purposefully chooses its membership to better represent these interests. For example, both the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board appoint members to the OSC. The Long Range Planning Committee and Board of Selectmen (BOS) appoint liaisons. The BOS appoints the remaining OSC members, some of whom also sit on the Board of Health's Water Resources Study Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission. OSC members are often members of ad-hoc committees and subcommittees formed to assess projects or problems in Dover. OSC members are also active with local conservation groups, including The Trustees of Reservations (The Trustees), the Upper Charles Conservation Land Trust (UCCLT), the Dover Land Conservation Trust (DLCT), Hale Reservation, Massachusetts Audubon Society, and the Norfolk Hunt Club.

Given this broad representation, discussions during OSC meetings cover many topics, from the desirability of preserving or acquiring particular properties to efforts that encourage the use of open space by Dover citizens. The OSC welcomes public attendance at our meetings, which are typically held on the first Tuesday of the month, September to June, at 7:30 p.m., on either Zoom or in the Town House. Please see the Town calendar on the Town's website for meeting agendas and login or meeting room information.

Guided Walks on Conservation Lands

In 2020, OSC members again planned to lead guided walks through Dover conservation lands on the second Saturday morning of each month from April to November. Due to COVID-19, these walks were delayed until September and a December walk was added. To comply with COVID-19 recommendations, we required that participants pre-register and wear masks during the walk. This year's walks included the Town's Wylde Woods, 23 acres of Town fields located behind 46 Springdale Avenue, and the DLCT's newly acquired Blake Reservation. OSC walks are publicized on the Town website, various e-calendars (Boston.com, WickedLocal.com, NextDoor.com, Patch.com) and through e-mail reminders sent to interested citizens. The OSC will continue offering these guided monthly walks in 2021, and we hope you will join us!

Open Space and Recreation Plan

The OSC is in the process of updating the 2011 Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). Corrections and updates made last year to the open space layer in OLIVER, the online mapping tool of MassGIS (MA geographic information system) are now available in the Town of Dover GIS. OSRP maps will now more accurately depict our conservation lands.

The OSRP is also being updated to reflect recently conserved lands, as well as the townspeople's opinions, use, and concerns regarding open space and recreation opportunities. We greatly appreciate all the time spent and thoughtful responses by so many citizens. The results of the survey were distributed to Town committees and interested citizens. A copy can be requested by e-mailing the OSC chair. A public forum presenting the updated plan will also be scheduled.

Hale Reservation Task Force

Chair Amey Moot represents the OSC on the BOS's ad-hoc committee, which is assessing the proposed Hale Reservation conservation restriction (CR). The task force began its work in November 2019 and will present its findings to the BOS.

Conservation Support

The OSC provides ongoing support for and communication about various projects involving local conservation groups. For example, in 2020 the OSC:

- supported neighbors and citizens in the purchase for conservation of more than 8 acres on Pine Street, known as the "church lot" and abutting DLCT's Snow Hill reservation and some Conservation Commission land;
- offered guidance to the BOS on whether to certify five CRs to protect, in perpetuity, nearly 100 acres, off Pine Street and Wilsondale Street; and
- updated and revised the "Outdoor Recreation" pages for the new Town website. These pages list passive recreation opportunities, including all conservation properties with walking trails and links to maps (if available), as well as notes on associated parking areas.

The OSC will continue working with the Conservation Commission, The Trustees, the DLCT, the UCCLT, and other groups to improve access and walking experiences at properties throughout Dover.

Appreciation

In mid-December, it was with great sadness that Dover citizens lost one of their longest-standing and most effective advocates for open space, David W. Lewis Jr. Recently, David's efforts were instrumental in helping the DLCT and the Trustees conserve the top of Pegan Hill, with the DLCT portion appropriately being named Lewis Hill in his honor. We also recognize David for his dedicated stewardship of DLCT's signature property, Springdale Field, with its view that we all enjoy. In addition to his decades-long tenure on DLCT, David served as a trustee of the Wardner Farm Trust, which owns the land stewarded by the Norfolk Hunt Club (NHC). Throughout his life, he was an avid horseman and supporter of NHC, serving as Master of Foxhounds from 1973 to 1980. Without David's care and efforts, Dover would not have the rural look we all treasure.

The OSC would like to thank Paul Wood for his valued service and hope that he will rejoin us as soon as family commitments allow. In Paul's place, we welcome Connie Sullivan to the Committee. Carol Lisbon is rejoining the Committee as the representative of the Planning Board and we are very excited to have her back. Henry Faulkner, the previous Planning Board representative will remain involved with the Committee, and we are pleased to have him continue joining us at meetings. His deep knowledge of the Town's conservation lands and his active involvement with DLCT make him a valuable resource. We thank all of our members for continuing their generous service. We look forward to working with you in 2021!