

DOVER

Land Use Reports

2010



Report of the **Planning Board**

Mark Sarro, Chairman
Henry Faulkner
Charles Ognibene
Jane Remsen
Gregory Sullivan

The Planning Board is comprised of five elected members. The Board's duties are enumerated in various state laws and local bylaws. A consulting planner, Gino Carlucci, and a part-time assistant, Susan Hall, work under Board supervision.

The Board meets approximately every two weeks. In 2010, the Board held 19 public meetings. Board members also serve on the Open Space Committee, the Dover Housing Partnership, and the Long Range Planning Committee. They also attend meetings of other Town boards and committees, and work closely with the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Health, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Conservation Commission.

Pursuant to state law, the Board governs the local subdivision process. Developers must apply to the Board for permission to create new roads and new lots. A subdivision can only be approved after the Board conducts a public hearing and makes detailed findings. Ultimately, maps, conditions, and covenants are recorded in the Registry of Deeds. During 2010, there were no new subdivisions proposed.

If a property owner wishes to create a lot on an existing road, the process is governed by the state ANR (approval not required) process. Under this law, the Board has the authority to endorse a plan for recording, within 21 days of its receipt, if it determines that the lots delineated on the plan comply with local zoning dimensional requirements and have adequate access. In 2010, the Board endorsed four ANR plans.

The Board has jurisdiction over scenic roads. Pursuant to state and local laws, a person must obtain permission from the Planning Board, after a public hearing, before any trees or stone walls can be altered or removed within a scenic road right-of-way. In 2010, the Board approved four such applications. The Board also acted on two scenic road violations, both involving the alteration of existing stonewalls and the construction of new stonewalls without prior permission from the Board.

The Board reviews sign applications and issues permits. In 2010, it had no sign applications.

The Board is the special-permit granting authority for personal wireless service facilities within the Town, as well as for development proposals

within Dover's business districts. In 2010, the Board held a public hearing on a proposal by T-Mobile to place a new wireless facility at the site of an existing utility pole on Hartford Street, a designated scenic road. The hearing included consideration of a great deal of detailed information from both T-Mobile and abutters to the proposed location. The Board closed the public hearing in late 2010, with its final decision expected in early 2011 regarding whether, and under what conditions, the Board might grant T-Mobile a special permit for the proposed facility.

The Board is responsible for drafting and revising local zoning bylaws. In 2010, the Board considered editing the zoning bylaws to eliminate inconsistencies and to streamline the wording and structure of some parts of the bylaw with the intent of clarifying, but not substantively changing, certain provisions. The Board drafted proposed edits and held a public hearing on them, with said hearing to be continued into 2011.

In the past, the Board has proposed bylaw revisions to create permanently protected open space in exchange for some flexibility, by special permit, in the dimensional requirements of existing zoning bylaws. In 2008, such a proposal received a majority of votes at Town Meeting (133 for, 77 against) but fell short of the two-thirds required to pass. In 2010, the Planning Board again decided not to propose an open space bylaw. However, the Board continues to believe the Town's zoning bylaws should be revised to preserve open space.

In 2010, the Board again was asked to comment on two potential proposals for new sidewalks: on Dedham Street between the Town center and Caryl Park, and on Springdale Avenue between Centre Street and Main Street. In determining whether or not to support a proposed sidewalk prior to Town Meeting, the Board considers the Sidewalk Guidelines, which prioritize locations for sidewalks, address design features, and establish procedures by which the Board will consider sidewalk proposals. The proposed Springdale Avenue sidewalk was withdrawn prior to the 2010 Town Meeting. The Board held a public hearing on the Dedham Street sidewalk proposal. It was unanimously voted not to support the proposal at Town Meeting.

Each Board member serves a five-year term. If there is a vacancy mid-term, a new member is appointed. The appointed member serves from the time of appointment until the end of the current election year. At that time, an election is held. The newly elected member serves the remainder of the term. In May 2010, Henry Faulkner was reelected for a five-year term.

The Board thanks Bob Homer, who retired in 2010 as Dover's consulting engineer, for his many years of service, and Ross Whistler, GIS specialist, for his continued assistance to the Board.

Report of the **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Gary P. Lilienthal, Chairman
Tobe Deutschmann, Member
Michael Donovan, Associate Member
Alan Fryer, Associate Member
LaVerne G. Lovell, 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 (Zoning). Depending on 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. The ZBA also has jurisdiction to hear cases involving special permit requests and requests for comprehensive permits under MGL Chapter 40B (Regional Planning). 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 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 must begin 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. Notice of a hearing 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 and be heard. Evidence on the application is received by the ZBA until the hearing is closed. Once the ZBA has reached 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.

The ZBA has adopted rules governing its procedures. Copies of these rules, as well as the Zoning Bylaw, are available from the Town Clerk.

2010 Activity

The ZBA took action on applications on a number of cases dealing with expansions of permitted preexisting nonconforming uses on buildings, special permits, variances, comprehensive permits, and appeals from decisions of the Building Inspector.

In one court case related to a prior action by the Board that was appealed, a decision in favor of the Town was handed down by the court.

In other actions, the Board:

- held hearings on and granted approval of a request by the developer of Dover Farms on Dedham Street to further modify the comprehensive permit under MGL Chapter 40B;
- granted an application for modifications to the current comprehensive permit for The Meadows on Springdale Avenue;
- issued a comprehensive permit to allow a four-unit affordable, single-family-type housing development named Dover Village on County Street; at this point, this decision is on appeal;
- granted approval, including special permits and variances, for a cellular transmitter on an existing high-voltage transmission tower, with at-grade equipment located off of Hartford Street; and
- approved an application for the demolition and reconstruction of a preexisting nonconforming dwelling on Main Street without expansion of any preexisting nonconformities.

In addition to the foregoing, the ZBA received other filings that were withdrawn, in some cases without prejudice to future filings.

Finally, several important Board personnel changes occurred in 2010. James Parent, who served the Board and the Town with great wisdom and dignity for many years, retired and moved out of Dover; his presence and input will be missed. Michael Donovan was appointed associate member to fill the open position left by Tobe Deutschmann, who became a full member of the Board. Jeffrey Barnes's term as an associate member expired, and he was succeeded by Alan Fryer. The Board extends its appreciation to Mr. Barnes for his valued service and input over the years. The Board welcomes both Mr. Donovan and Mr. Fryer and is pleased to have them as associate members.

Report of the Highway Department

Craig S. Hughes, Superintendent of Streets

Maintenance

Approximately 2,000 feet of berm was installed to control water runoff on the following streets: Walpole Street, Valley Road, Centre Street, and Pegan Lane. We cleaned about 1,000 feet of 12-inch storm drainpipes and cleaned out large 48-inch culvert pipes under Haven Street at Troutbrook and at Claybrook Road at Troutbrook with high-pressure vacuum equipment. Approximately 1,100 storm drains were cleaned and about 12 catch basins were rebuilt. We installed a new guardrail on Claybrook Road and kept the roadsides of all major roads mowed.

We continue to compost about 1,000 yards of leaves each year and return the finished product to the Dover Transfer Station for use by residents and for Highway Department roadside projects. We contracted out the painting of 600,000 feet of traffic markings, crosswalks, and stop bars.

Tarvia

We continue to stay on track with our five-year pavement plan. About 4,000 tons of asphalt was spread on the following streets: Wildwood Road, Crest Drive, Crest Drive West, Hilltop Road, Riga Road, Centre Street by the cemetery, the library access road, and the Town Garage parking area.

Solid Waste (Transfer Station)

Residents threw away 2,194 tons of solid waste that was transported mainly by Highway Department personnel in 207 trips to Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. Thanks again go to Wade Hayes and Bill Herd for helping to keep the facility clean and running smoothly in all kinds of weather.

Solid Waste Tonnage to Millbury

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
2,530	2,488	2,452	2,329	2,298	2,130	2,194

Per-Ton Tipping Fee (\$)

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008*	2009	2010
82.02	84.18	86.85	89.12	67.73/ 69.10	69.10/ 69.20	60.10/ 70.87

Cost for Solid Waste Disposal at Wheelabrator (\$)

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009*	2010
207,475	209,421	212,959	207,532	157,228	147,281	153,621

* New contract—reduced tipping fee

Streetlights

The Town now owns its 67 overhead streetlights under agreement with NSTAR, which provided a substantial grant as part of the Green Communities Act to convert all the lights over to high-pressure sodium from the old mercury lights. The work was completed in May, and we are already seeing enormous savings in our operating budget.

State Aid (Chapter 90)

Again this year we were granted funds under the State Chapter 90 Program for two projects. The first was the complete resurfacing of Dedham Street at a cost of \$380,000 and the second was the traffic study and implementation of the left-turn green arrow at the traffic lights in the center of town for a cost of \$22,000.

Snow and Ice

Winter 2009–10 brought a total of 50 inches of snow. The following log represents our responses to the weather:

12/5/09	Snow	3"	Sanders/Plows
6	Snow cont.		Sanders/Plows
9	Snow	4"	Sanders/Plows
10	Ice		Sanders
14	Ice		Sanders
19	Snow	12"	Sanders/Plows
20	Ice		Sanders
26	Ice		Sanders
28	Ice		Sanders
31	Snow	3"	Sanders/Plows
1/1/10	Snow	1"	Sanders
2	Snow	9"	Sanders/Plows
3	Snow cont.		Sanders/Plows
4	Snow cont.		Sanders/Plows
8	Snow	1"	Sanders
9	Ice		Sanders
18	Snow	3"	Sanders/Plows
19	Snow cont.		Sanders/Plows
20	Ice		Sanders
28	Snow	1"	Sanders/Plows
29	Ice		Sanders
2/3/10	Snow	1"	Sanders
10	Snow	3"	Sanders/Plows
11	Snow cont.		Sanders/Plows
16	Snow	6"	Sanders/Plows
17	Snow cont.		Sanders/Plows
27	Snow	1"	Sanders
3/1/10	Snow	1"	Sanders
5	Snow	1"	Sanders

Garage Operation

Built in 1998, the Phillip S. Luttazi Highway Garage continues to serve the Town very well, housing several departments and serving as the center for our snow and ice removal operations. The conference room provides a meeting place for boards, committees, and organizations. In 2010, we updated the garage's air-control system for heating and air conditioning to better monitor our usage.

Appreciation

I would like to thank the Highway Department personnel for another year of good work and the Finance Committee on Roads for the time they give to this department. I also thank Bob Homer for the countless hours he has devoted to the Town and for passing his knowledge in many areas on to me. Bob was the consulting engineer for many years and his good work shows in the many projects that he was involved in. I wish him well in his retirement.

Finally, thanks go to the many groups that work to keep several islands throughout town beautiful: Chicabot Garden Club, Powisset Garden Club, the Dover Garden Club, the Garden Continuum, Strawberry Hill Landscaping, and Grasshopper Landscaping.



The Phillip S. Luttazi Town Garage. Photo by David W. Stapleton.

Report of the Parks and Recreation Commission

Nancy Simms, Chairman

Scott Seidman, Treasurer

Chris Boland, Secretary

Peter Davies

Rich Oasis

Dave MacTavish, Director, Parks and Recreation

Jessica Cooney, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department and its supervising Parks and Recreation Commission (collectively, “P&R”) worked hard in 2010 to strengthen existing programs and events, add new programs, and improve the safety at all the indoor and outdoor facilities under its jurisdiction. Parental involvement and volunteerism continue to play an essential role in sustaining our programs, as does collaboration from other town departments.

Administrative News

Our request for department-specific software was approved at the 2009 Annual Town Meeting, and we look forward to the registration, planning, and facilities management benefits it will provide. Our Caryl Community Center office and equipment staging space continue to meet our growing needs. Meeting and recreational spaces were well used, and the renovations undergone in 2009 to the gymnasium, library, and classroom spaces are holding up nicely. Town residents are encouraged to use the facilities for meetings, rentals, and recreation programs by contacting the P&R office.

In fall 2010, P&R hired a part-time office staff member to work from April to June and from August to October, our busiest months. This position is funded out of the Revolving Fund and will be an annual requirement. As our program offerings grow, funding an additional full-time employee could become necessary.

Program News

The combined programs we offer in cooperation with the Town of Sherborn now cover almost all types of team activities. Our relationship with Sherborn’s Recreation Commission, which contributes to the costs for sustaining our department, is a welcome one that benefits our programs and allows Dover and Sherborn children to interact.

Several programs were added in 2010, including the kindergarten Discovery Club program, pre-kindergarten Wide World of Sports classes,

fencing classes, drawing classes, a second eighth-grade field-hockey team, a middle school cheerleading program, and adult fitness classes. Although our programs are popular in general, the slow economy has seen some drops in attendance. Two programs, Young Broadcasters of America and Middle School Cheerleading, were offered but withdrawn due to lack of sufficient interest.

Health and Safety Improvements

In 2010, the Chickering baseball infield and the back Caryl baseball infield (C2) were refurbished to ensure safe playing conditions. A defibrillator is currently installed in each of the following five areas: the Chickering School, the Caryl Community Center, outside the maintenance shed at Caryl Park, behind the backstop at the (C1) baseball field near the tennis courts, and behind the backstop at the Chickering baseball field. The defibrillators located in the three outdoor areas are stored in locked yellow ground-level bins, and all coaches have the combination lock code. In 2010, P&R purchased backstop storage containers to house the maintenance and safety equipment for the baseball program.

A “carry in, carry out” trash policy suggested by the Dover Recycling Committee will be instituted March 1, 2011, at Caryl Park and Chickering playfields. The goal is to eliminate general litter and overflowing trash bins, reduce health and sanitary risks, and encourage players and parents to manage their personal trash and to recycle. Similar policies in neighboring towns have shown positive results. Signage will appear throughout both parks.

CPR and AED (automatic external defibrillator) training is offered twice annually and will be held in March 2011 for coaches and anyone else interested in certification.

Spring Season Highlights

Eliot Hodgkins Fishing Derby: A highly anticipated rite of spring, the 32nd Annual Fishing Derby was held in April at Channing Pond, hosting more than 100 youngsters who angled for the 200 or so “big ones” that got away.

Pre-K Sports Programs: This year we introduced more of Peter Sylvester’s programs for children ages 3 to 5. Spring programs included baseball, T-ball, soccer, and spring flag football for boys and girls.

Discovery Club: Dover mothers Gina Saltonstall and Cathy Thompson launched an afternoon kindergarten enrichment program in one of the newly refurbished Caryl Center classrooms. The program, offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, coincides with Chickering School’s early release kindergarten schedule and runs throughout the academic year.

Baseball: Offering sound instruction and spirited, even-handed competition, the baseball program was expanded to include 83 pre-kindergarten

boys and girls on Tuesdays and 54 first-grade boys on Saturdays. In conjunction with the Dover Sherborn Youth Baseball and Softball club (DSYBS), 299 boys in grades 2–6 played in the A–Majors Baseball leagues. Another 57 boys in grades 7–9 played on four teams as part of the Babe Ruth Tri-Valley League.

Softball: Three full divisions with 83 girls in grades 3–8 played in the Tri-Valley League. Many played throughout the summer in fun and exciting tournament play. Twelve children in first and second grades received professional instruction from Planet FastPitch.

Thundercat Sports Jam: Multisport programs offering enthusiastic coaching for elementary-school-aged children in a fun, noncompetitive atmosphere were held in the Caryl Center gym and included baseball, basketball, soccer, flag football, floor hockey, badminton, dodge ball, disc golf, ultimate Frisbee, kickball, team handball, waffle ball, and more.

Tennis: Directed by Peter Cooper, this popular program ran at the Caryl Park courts from April through October, with lessons given to 195 children and adults.

Tae Kwon Do: This popular year-round program had 24 participants in 2010, with more than 30 enrolled for the 2010–11 sessions. Former World Karate Championship competitor and sixth-degree black belt, Master Jean Theodat, has taken many of his students to local testings where they have demonstrated proficiency and mastery and earned place recognitions.

Golf Lessons: Lessons for youth and adults at all ability levels were offered at Glen Ellen Country Club in Millis. The club’s golf program is led by Millis High School golf team coach Andy Ingham, who is also the Massachusetts tour director for the U.S. Kids Golf Tour. Two sessions of weekly ladies-only clinics were also offered.

Safety Courses: Safety courses offered for young and old included Babysitter Lessons and Safety Training (BLAST), Home Alone Safety, SafeKids, Girlforce, Bullyproofing, First Aid Training, CPR and AED Training, Heartsaver CPR Training, and Wilderness Emergency Medical Aid Training. All youth sports team coaches were strongly encouraged to receive CPR and AED training.

Summer Season Highlights

Summer Playground Program: This popular long-running program featured field trips and on-site performers and ran weekdays from the beginning of July to the beginning of August between 9 a.m. and noon at the Chickering School. This year, 135 campers in grades K–5 participated, with more than a dozen high school and college students serving as counselors. An extended day program was also offered Monday through Thursday from noon to 2 p.m.

Summer Concerts on the Common: On select Tuesday evenings in July and August, P&R provided free outdoor concerts, featuring professional local musicians and outside talent. Families brought picnic dinners, Frisbees, lacrosse sticks, baseballs and gloves, and other favorite outdoor games. Due to declining attendance, however, fewer events were held in 2010. We greatly appreciate the support of those who sponsor performances, which encourages other groups, organizations, and businesses to do the same.

Additional Summer Programs: The Hot Summer Nights baseball program served 26 pre-k children. Thundercat Sports returned for its fourth summer, holding several weeklong sports camps; Sports Jam, Kitty Cat Jam, baseball, basketball and flag football. Forty children ages 5 to 14 participated. The U.S. Sports Institute hosted weeklong soccer, cricket, field hockey, and golf camps, as well as general sports activities through their Multi-Sport and Sport Squirts camps. Approximately 30 children, ages 5 to 14, participated in one of more of their camps. Golf clinics and lessons were offered at Glen Ellen Country Club. Baseball Coaches Academy offered ballplayers camp options that combined professional instruction and fun. Challenger Sports Soccer offered weeklong soccer clinics.

Fall Season Highlights

Dover Days Fair: Held during the second weekend in September, the 2010 fair was successful thanks to great weather and many high school volunteers, who helped with the 5K Pumpkin Run, ticket selling and collecting for the rides, and overall event organization. A special thank-you goes to the enthusiastic young helpers and to the Dover Cultural Council, which helped secure and fund a live band. A Dover Days committee has been established to recruit arts and crafts vendors, suppliers, local nonprofit groups, and inflatable entertainment structures.

Pre-K Sports Programs: More than one 100 preschoolers and kindergartners flocked to Peter Sylvester’s (Coach Pete) fall sports programs. Coach Pete offered flag football, soccer, fall baseball, and the Wide World of Sports program.

D-S Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Football: For its 16th season, 66 players from Dover and Sherborn played 20 games against local school teams under the guidance of head coaches George Licht, Shawn Flanagan, and Paul Whelan, as well as parent volunteers. The eighth-grade team participated in games within the Middlesex League, formed this year to promote local middle school sports. Participation was up from 2009 due to the large number of seventh graders.

Middle School Field Hockey: Four teams celebrated another exciting, successful season. Congratulations go to more than 80 outstanding players on sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade teams coached by Val Yorston, Annie

Kenney, Kelly Sullivan, Ann Nolen, and parent volunteers. The eighth-grade team also participated in games within the Middlesex League.

Wrestling: Led by coach Nate Van Duzer, with the help of high school volunteers, this popular program continues to receive positive feedback from parents and children alike. During the fall and winter, children met two evenings a week and competed in local competitions. More than 30 children are registered for 2011.

Fencing: A former national fencing champion, Dartmouth College fencing legend, and fencing club coach, Brent Concillio led three courses for pre-teens, teens, and adults at the Caryl Community Center, with classes continuing through the winter season.

Drawing Courses: Children and adult classes were held at the Caryl Community Center art room and included FUNdamentals of Drawing, Kids Draw, Basics of Drawing, and Cartooning.

Safety Courses: Safety and health-related courses offered for the fall season were BLAST, Home Alone Safety, and Pediatric First Aid and CPR Training.

Additional Fall Programs: Tennis, Thundercat Sports Jam, Discovery Club, and Tae Kwon Do were offered in the fall. A high school lacrosse coach and players ran a youth lacrosse clinic for boys, held over several weekends.

Winter Season Highlights

Holiday Tree Lighting: A ecumenical celebration of the winter holiday season took place on the second Wednesday in December. The Chickering School Band played great music and cookies and hot chocolate were served.

Ice Skating on Channing Pond: Thanks to the cooperative weather, Dover residents enjoyed a fantastic skating season. P&R employees worked day and night to keep the pond open by clearing snow, checking ice depth, flooding the surface, and plowing the parking lot. Hockey nets were provided for impromptu, multi-generation hockey games, while figure-skating enthusiasts enjoyed the open ice on other parts of the pond. Lighting stanchions permitted night skating seven days a week until 10 p.m.

Pre-K Sports Programs: Peter Sylvester (Coach Pete) coached children, ages 3 to 5 at the Caryl gym. Twenty-one children participated in the afternoon floor hockey program and 45 children enrolled in the indoor soccer program. A new basketball program served 15 children on Tuesday afternoons. Dover is lucky to have Coach Pete.

Intramural Basketball: This program is a less-intense local alternative to the Dover-Sherborn Youth Basketball League's competitive travel program. P&R thanks the 50 parents who volunteered as coaches, contributing

to the program's success. Two coaches were added this year to accommodate 200 children in grades K-5.

Ski Programs: The K-grade 5 Chickering Ski Program runs at Nashoba Valley Ski Area in Westford, Massachusetts, and in 2010 served 32 families, down from about an average of 75 families in previous years. The program was shortened from six Wednesdays to five, and ski lessons were moved to a later time slot. The Middle School Ski Program accommodated 62 skiers and boarders in grades 6-8, transporting them by private bus to spend Friday afternoons and nights at Nashoba Valley Ski Area. The 2011 session began with 77 participants.

Other Winter Programs: Programs for elementary-school-aged children included Floor Hockey, Wide World of Sports, and Thundercat Sports Jam. Drawing classes, Fencing, Wrestling, Tae Kwon Do, and the Discovery Club are also offered.

Facilities

Caryl Community Center: Improvements made to the center's gym (sanded and waxed floors, new paint, cushioned wall panels) and library (new paint, carpet, touch-ups) and refurbished classrooms have increased demand for space. In particular, demand for gym space exceeded capacity and force many potential fee-paying users to be turned away, reinforcing the need for another full-sized gym. In 2010, the center was used for public meetings; scout meetings; resident and nonresident birthday parties; pre-kindergarten sports; youth sports (basketball, baseball, softball, and lacrosse); fencing; fitness classes, including yoga; pick-up sports games; and play space for private groups such as the Child Development Center and the Walker School. A new indoor batting cage facilitated pre-season training.

Parks: P&R maintains many park areas for Dover residents and nonresidents. Caryl Park, Channing Pond, and the Riverside Drive Boat Landing are popular recreation destinations. Five smaller park parcels are also maintained by P&R, as are the lands around Chickering School, the Dover Library, the Protective Agencies Building, and the Town House.

Athletic Fields: Athletic fields are used by the P&R and by local youth sports clubs, including Dover-Sherborn Soccer, Dover-Sherborn Youth Lacrosse, Dover-Sherborn Girls Lacrosse, and Dover-Sherborn Youth Baseball and Softball. P&R maintains three multipurpose sports fields: two at Chickering Fields and one at Caryl Park. There are four available baseball diamonds: one at the Chickering Fields and three at Caryl Park. Keeping our fields in top condition is a priority. P&R uses organic fertilizers and considers field resting to be essential for care and maintenance because it allows for re-seeding, re-loaming, aerating, and fertilizing. A full season of rest helps grass develop a strong root system. P&R retired the front Chickering field for the 2010 fall season. The decision to keep all

fields open to meet demand in fall 2009 resulted in the closure of one field for spring 2011, a mistake to be avoided in the future.

The shortage of athletic fields for our younger athletes continues to be a concern for P&R, as well for many groups and individuals. Throughout the past decade, Dover's youth sports groups have lobbied P&R for more playing fields and better field conditions. In late 2009, they joined P&R in funding an engineering consulting firm to quantify and address the field shortage crisis. The consultant recommended the addition of two artificial turf fields at the Caryl Park site to meet the excess demand for field time and ensure the safety and sustainability of the existing grass fields. Reconfiguring Caryl Park could also include converting one Caryl baseball field into a softball field and adding another small baseball diamond and a series of walking paths.

In late winter 2010, P&R withdrew the warrant article for the Caryl Park Reconfiguration Project from the 2010 Town Meeting Warrant because of concerns regarding a Caryl Park well that supplies the water to Chickering School. P&R consulted with the Dover water commissioners and the Town's water engineer who retained the firm Tata & Howard to conduct a study of the well site. The water-engineering firm reported that as long as the proposed athletic fields were situated outside of the well's specified zone 1, no risk would be posed to the school's water supply. The Town is currently awaiting confirmation of this opinion from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Following two meetings with Caryl Park neighbors, four open town discussions, informal talks with youth groups, and discussions with recreation department officials in neighboring and nationwide towns, the project at the Caryl Park site received all necessary approvals from Town departments and committees. We are grateful for the open and honest discussions held for this community project.

The Caryl Park Leadership Committee, a group of youth sports parents committed to bringing artificial turf fields to Dover to address the field shortage crisis was formed in 2010 to lead fundraising and marketing efforts for this project. The committee and P&R are working toward bringing the project before the Town at the May 2011 Annual Town Meeting. More information on the Caryl Park Reconfiguration Project can be found at <http://www.doverrec.com/carylpark>.

Finally, thanks go to the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee and the Dover School Committee for allowing us the use of their athletic facilities during the 2010 season.

Appreciation

We extend our sincere thanks to the Chicatabot and Powisset Garden clubs for their much-appreciated contributions to the Town. The Chicatabot Garden Club cares for the triangles at Springdale Avenue and Dedham Street, McGill Corner, and the flower barrels at the center of town. The Powisset Garden Club maintains the Town War Memorial. A special

thank-you goes to Mrs. Betty Brady of the Tree Committee for her continued help in the beautifying of our center.

Many thanks also go to departmental staff members Tom Palmer, James Gorman, and John Gilbert for their outstanding work on our playing fields, the Town Common, Channing Pond, and Town parklands. We also appreciate their assistance with events such as the Dover Days Fair, the 5K Pumpkin Run, and the Holiday Tree Lighting celebration.

Director of Parks and Recreation, David MacTavish, has more than 30 years of knowledge and experience in field and facilities management and is responsible for addressing field quality and safety concerns, as well as ensuring that acquisitions made on the Town's behalf are high quality yet cost-effective. He is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association (MRPA), and the New England Park Association.

Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, Jessica Cooney, is a tireless, enthusiastic, and valued member of our staff who has completed her fourth year with P&R. In 2010, Jessica graduated from the National Recreation and Park Association's Directors School, as well as and attended the 2010 National NRPA Congress and Exposition, where she learned about industry trends and ideas, saw new products, and networked with other recreation professionals. Jessica is a certified Parks and Recreation Professional, a member of both the NRPA and the MRPA.

Volunteerism plays a vital role in our department as the Town operating budget does not provide funds for coaches and support staff. Once again, our volunteers have been outstanding in providing children with valuable one-on-one attention and allowing us to be flexible in scheduling activities. These individuals are greatly appreciated by the children and their families, and we add our own heartfelt thanks.



Photo courtesy of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Report of the
Conservation Commission

Kate Faulkner, Chairman
Rick Weden, Secretary
John Sullivan, Treasurer
Tim Holiner

Candace McCann
Peter McGlynn
Janet O'Connor

The Dover Conservation Commission had a successful year of protecting wetland resources by enforcing the Dover Wetlands Protection Bylaws and the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The Commission heard 20 Notices of Intent, four Requests for Determination of Applicability, two Amendment Requests, four Abbreviated Notices of Resource Area Delineation, as well as entertained multiple informal discussions with homeowners regarding the disposition of their properties within proximity to wetlands.

The Commission issued two Enforcement Orders for illegal work within areas subject to wetlands protection at both the local and state levels. Most of these orders were related to improper or illegal clearing and filling within wetlands and wetland buffers.

Projects during the year included working with the Dover Boy Scout Troop One to make the landing at Bridge Street more accessible to the public, and working with the Board of Health to establish the first annual deer management plan to lessen the risk of Lyme disease in the Dover community.

The Commission cordially invites you to its meetings, which are open to the public and held twice monthly on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Check the calendar section of the Dover Town website at <http://www.doverma.org> for scheduled meeting dates.

Report of the
Long Range Planning Committee

Walter Weld, Chairman
Paul J. Angelico
George Arnold, Jr.
Peter Smith, Warrant Committee Liaison
Sharon Grant, Capital Budget Committee Appointee
James P. Dawley, Jr., Board of Selectmen Appointee

Mark Sarro, Planning Board Appointee
Suzanne Sheridan

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is a seven-member committee made up of one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Planning Board, and five members appointed by the Moderator on a rotating basis of one or two members each year for three-year terms. The LRPC is responsible for advising, assisting, and coordinating the long range planning of all boards and committees of the Town. In addition, for the past few years, the LRPC has been directed by the Selectmen to assist the Planning Board in updating and implementing the Town's Master Plan.

In 2010, the LRPC focused primarily on working with the Planning Board to prepare a survey that will provide information for the 2012 Master Plan. The survey is intended to assess as accurately as possible the views of the citizens on a range of the Town's most important long range planning issues, thereby providing critical input for future decisions. The last town-wide survey was conducted in 1993 and formed the basis for subsequent updates of the Master Plan.

The Planning Board and the LRPC sent a letter to the chairmen of all Town boards and committees, requesting them to identify any issues they would like the survey to include. Input was also solicited from all Dover residents via a letter posted on the Town website. The Planning Board and the LRPC have been reviewing the responses and forming appropriate questions for the survey. It is expected that the survey will be distributed town-wide by the early spring 2011 and that the results of the survey will be incorporated into an updated Master Plan to be completed in 2012.

On other matters, the LRPC met with a proponent of a new sidewalk on Dedham Street, but has taken no formal action on that proposal.

In 2010, Geoff Merrill completed his term as a member of the LRPC and as its chairman. The LRPC acknowledges and thanks Mr. Merrill for his dedication and many contributions to the Committee.

Report of the Tree Committee

John M. Devine, Chairman
Laura Walter
Carrie Waterman

The charming and serene rural character that typifies Dover and sets it apart from other communities is due in no small part to the Town's large population of trees—a precious asset that requires vigilant oversight and a strong commitment to preservation.

The Tree Committee is charged with the stewardship of trees located within the Town's rights-of-way. Responsibilities include 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 2010, the Committee worked with the Tree Warden, the Superintendent of Streets, and local garden clubs to maintain various areas of Dover. New plantings were installed and diseased or damaged trees were replaced. The Committee agreed on specific areas of concern, including the island located at the intersection of Dedham and Westfield streets. The cement island was removed and the area was prepared with new compost and loam. Flowering trees were planted, along with a variety of shrubs and flowering perennials.

The Committee also worked on a second project located on Meadowbrook Road, where the land was prepared with new compost and screened loam. Flowering pear trees and a variety of colorful perennials were also planted.

Many thanks go to the dedicated residents and clubs who donated their time and services to help maintain Dover's beautiful rural character. Chicatabot Garden Club and Strawberry Hill Landscaping continue to maintain the traffic islands at no cost 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 <http://www.doverma.org>. Committee members can be reached by leaving a message on the Dover Police Department's non-emergency line at (508) 785-1130.

Report of the Tree Warden

John Gilbert

The year 2010 was year one of Dover's second five-year street tree maintenance plan, which was implemented to decrease storm damage and enhance the health and appearance of Dover's street trees.

Pruning

Trees on the following streets were pruned: Belden, Bridge, Brook, Chickering, Circle, Cranberry, Edgewater, Farm, Greenwood, Junction, Maple, Meadowbrook, Old Farm, Old Meadow, Pleasant, Smith, Springdale, Troutbrook, and Wakeland.

Removals

Twenty-four dead or dangerous trees were removed. White ash continues to make up the bulk of these removals, primarily due to disease.

Insect and Disease Problems

Winter moth infestation caused significant damage to trees and is expected to continue into 2011. No confirmed reports of Asian longhorned beetle were received.

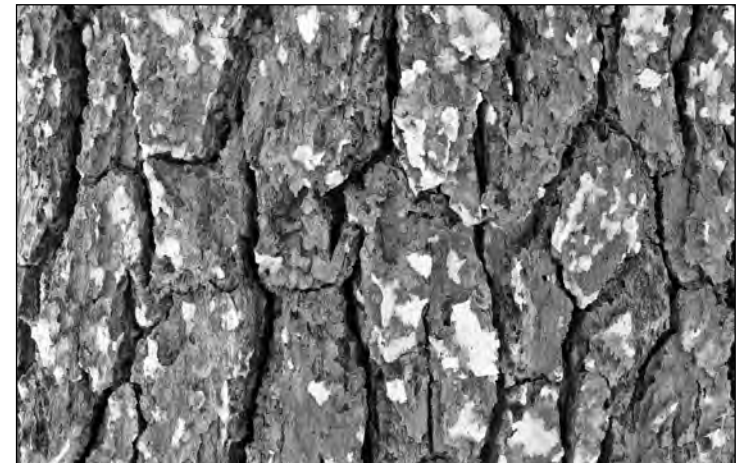


Photo by Alex Adamczyk.

Report of the Fence Viewers

David Heinlein
Kathleen W. Weld

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 49 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 reviewing the history of fence viewers in New England, we discovered that in 1644, 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. In 1678, the Town of Fairfield, CT, appointed four fence viewers, while at the same time only having two surveyors of roads.

We now live in different times, but as we drive along the roads of Dover we see many types of fences under construction and many being reconstructed. We are pleased to note that the Town’s fences appear to be in good condition, and that we were not called to settle any disputes in 2010.



Photo by David W. Stapleton.

Report of the Recycling Committee

Scott Seidman, Chairman
Fran Aikman
Becky Gladstone
Erin Gorden
Rebecca Sommer-Petersen
Curt Pfannenstiehl
Amy Wilcox
John O’Keefe, Associate Member
Matthew Schmid, Associate Member

In reviewing the Town of Dover’s recycling effort for 2010, our committee found both positives and negatives to report.

Overall, we have noticed a decreased tonnage of recycled materials collected in Dover, which totaled 24 tons last year and 64 tons three years ago, and which does not appear to be the result of any significant statistical change in the Town’s population or the number of its households. While various possible factors can affect such a decrease, including the reduced use of, or reuse of, materials by our citizens, the Committee believes that the decrease is due to a reduced commitment to recycling in general and that our residents can and should do better.

On the positive side, our children appear to be more enthusiastic in their recycling efforts than our adult citizens. For another year, Dover schools have successfully contributed to the “Go Green” initiative. Waste-Free Fridays are held every week at Chickering School, where students in grades 1 through 5 are encouraged to bring their lunches in reusable containers, to recycle all plastic and foil from the cafeteria, and to collect food waste that is picked up by a local farmer for pig consumption.

Under the impressive direction of Dover-Sherborn Middle School’s seventh-grade science teacher, Tammy Thornton, middle school and high school students composted their lunch waste this past fall and spring. Three composters are set up next to the middle school greenhouse, where students deposit their daily food waste and the Regional Schools’ groundskeepers contribute grass clippings and leaves—a combined effort that expedites the composting process.

The Dover Recycling Committee would like to express its gratitude to school administration, staff, custodians, and groundskeepers for helping to keep our schools green and our students responsible.

At the urging of the Committee, the Parks and Recreation Commission voted to put into effect in spring 2011 a “carry in-carry out” policy at the Dover playing fields, with the goal of eliminating litter and

the improper disposal of trash on the playing fields. We hope to teach players and parents to be responsible for their waste. Signage will be placed in multiple locations at both parks.

Finally, the Committee would like to thank all participants in this past year's town-wide clean-up day. Without this cooperative effort, such an event could not take place.

Recycling Data for the Calendar Year 2010

	2010 (tons)	2009 (tons)	Change (%)
Solid Waste*	2,193.7	2,129.8	3.0
Recyclables			
Mixed Paper (all types)*	288.3	311.7	(7.5)
Glass	101.1	96.8	4.5
Metal (cans and scrap)	66.8	80.6	(17.1)
Cardboard	113.3	99.5	13.9
Auto Batteries**	3.1	1.7	78.2
Plastic (non-deposit #1-#7)	41.1	36.6	12.3
Comingled Containers*	22.3	17.0	30.9
Electronics	35.6	38.7	(8.0)
Clothing***	10.3	10.3	0.0
Total Recyclables*	681.9	692.9	(1.6)
Total Solid Waste and Recyclables*	2,875.6	2,822.7	1.9
% Recyclables to Total*	23.7	24.5	(0.8)

	2010	2009	% Change
Deposit Containers (approx. units)***	223,965	224,050	(0.0)
Motor Oil (gallons)	650	800	(18.8)
Miscellaneous Fluorescent Bulbs	847	1,376	(38.4)
Miscellaneous Small Batteries (non-auto)	not available	209	
Propane Tanks	not available	73	

* Includes Dover Trucking

** Estimated based on the statistics from two pick-ups and extrapolating the third.

*** Estimated Value/Weight

Report of the MBTA Advisory Board

Joseph M. Melican, Advisory Board Representative

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA or Authority) and the MBTA Advisory Board were established by Chapter 563 of the Acts of 1964 established, a statute that was rewritten in Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1999, which expanded the service area of the MBTA from 78 communities to 175 cities and towns. The Advisory Board represents the interest of the member communities of the MBTA District and functions as a deliberative body. Each member has one full vote plus a fraction of a vote equivalent to the weighted proportion of the community's population to the service area's total population. The Advisory Board's statutory powers have included approval of the MBTA's annual line-item budget and all subsequent changes requested by the Authority; review of changes in transit fares; review of the Capital Investment Program; and approval of the Program for Mass Transportation.

The Advisory Board faced a challenging year in 2010. It was the first full year under the new transportation reform legislation that limited the Advisory Board's authority over the MBTA operating budget and capital plan. Both the MBTA and the Advisory Board were learning to operate in a new environment that included a new MBTA Board of Directors. Advisory Board members continued to focus on the T's finances, operational efficiency, and service reliability.

Another focus of 2010 was keeping members informed and involved. The Advisory Board began the year by planning its first conference: "Next Stop: A National Summit on the Future of Transit." For the first time in Boston, the Advisory Board brought together five general managers of some of the largest transit systems in America. The conference drew national attention and kicked off of the new Federal Department of Transportation's focus on the so-called "State of Good Repair" needs of established older transit systems. Another result of the conference was the brokering of an agreement to assist the Commonwealth in solving the capacity problems at South Station.

The Advisory Board met in June 2010 to review the T's operating budget. The MBTA Board had approved its budget prior to presenting it to the Advisory Board. This action was protested to the MBTA Board and to the leadership of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). A commitment was received to follow a more orderly and inclusive process in the future. At the June meeting to discuss the budget, a lion's share of the discussion concentrated on the current status of the then proposed Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11) budget, given that the State

Legislature had not, at that time, appropriated \$160 million that would—in combination with a series of proposed reductions and debt restructuring—be needed to close the significant deficit of \$230 million. The Advisory Board called for an end of such restructuring that shifted the burden of debt service to future generations.

A subsequent Advisory Board meeting held December 1, 2010, included an in-depth discussion of the current fiscal situation at the MBTA. Ongoing problem areas, such as the Ride, Commuter Rail, and health care costs were reviewed. It was noted that fare revenue continues to be below expectation, although the outlook is brighter now than earlier in the year. Also during this meeting, the T's General Manager committed to no fare increase or service cuts in this or the next fiscal year and the Capital Planning Department presented the MBTA's five-year Capital Investment Plan. The plan calls for 99% of all available capital funds to go to the upkeep of the existing system. Any and all expansion of the T would be paid for with State bond funds and not MBTA bond funds. The thrust of the Capital Investment Plan is to increase safety and reliability of the existing system. The funds currently available are not sufficient enough to keep pace with the MBTA's needs.

Advisory Board members approved a motion to submit legislation to restore the powers of the Advisory Board and change the makeup of the T's Board of Directors.

For FY11, the Town of Dover's MBTA assessment is \$115,120, a decrease of \$82 from its FY10 assessment.



Farm Street pumpkins. Photo by Toni Jo Richards.

Report of the Inspector of Buildings

Anthony Calo, Inspector of Buildings/Commissioner
Walter Avallone, Local Inspector of Buildings/Commissioner
Judy Sweeney, 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 and Massachusetts State Gas, Plumbing, Electrical, Building Codes and Chapter 40A, General Laws.

Inspectors make field inspections of buildings at various stages of construction, as well as inspect all public buildings, churches, and public and private schools. The Department also responds to inquiries from attorneys, land surveyors, banks, and the general public regarding zoning and building-code problems, and it directs unrelated calls to the proper authorities.

	Applications	Fees	Value
2008			
New Homes	13	\$94,766	\$9,412,871
Schools	0	0	0
Additions, Repairs, Other	259	86,121	8,198,783
Totals	272	\$180,887	\$17,611,654
2009			
New Homes	8	\$74,766	\$4,078,019
Schools	0	0	0
Additions, Repairs, Other	224	82,254	8,092,733
Totals	232	\$157,020	\$12,170,792
2010			
New Homes	21	\$73,674	\$9,523,650
Schools	0	0	0
Additions, Repairs, Other	241	92,492	8,839,531
Totals	262	\$166,166	\$18,363,181

Report of the Inspector of Wiring

Daniel McIntyre, Inspector
Gerald Graham, Deputy Inspector
Kevin Malloy, Deputy Inspector
James Naughton, Deputy Inspector
William Rowean, Deputy Inspector

During 2010, there were 246 wiring permits issued, many of which required multiple inspections. In some situations, violations were noted and corrections were made. It is important that all electrical work be permitted and inspected. Please feel free to call Wiring Inspector Dan McIntyre at (508) 785-0032, extension 245, if you wish to register a complaint or have any questions, such as how to check on an electrician's license.



Female cardinal. Photo by Marlayne Brace, copyright © 2011 Mbrace Studios.

Report of the Plumbing and Gas Inspector

Robert Hauptman, Inspector

During 2010, a total of 115 plumbing and 103 gas permits were issued. We were called to make 230 rough and final plumbing inspections and 206 rough and final gas inspections, for a total of 436 calls. As usual, a few violations were found and follow-up inspections were conducted to complete the final approvals. Any open permits from 2010 will be inspected in 2011.



Girl scouts at Dover Days celebration. Photo by Paul Keleher.

Report of the Open Space Committee

Justine Kent-Uritam, Chairman

Catherine Friend White, Interim Chairman

Jane Brace

Sierra Bright

Boynton Glidden

Henry Faulkner, Planning Board Appointee

Carol Lisbon, Board of Selectmen Liaison

Candace McCann, Conservation Commission Appointee

Amey Moot

Rich Oasis

Christophe Oliver

Andy Thompson

New Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Open Space Committee continues to make progress on a new Open Space and Recreation Plan to replace the previous one completed in 2003–4. Our consultant Gino Carlucci, Dover’s Town Planner, posted a draft of the plan on the Town of Dover website and organized a public meeting to discuss it on March 2, 2010. Mr. Carlucci also submitted the draft to the Commonwealth for review. The Commonwealth responded by proposing improvements, and the Open Space Committee is currently in the process of addressing those issues. We hope to have a new plan approved by the Commonwealth no later than the end of 2011.

Improved Parking at Noanet Woodlands

Working with The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR), the Open Space Committee obtained approval at the 2010 Annual Town Meeting to revise the off-street parking bylaw. The resulting new bylaw will enable TTOR to construct a single large parking lot for Noanet Woodlands on Powissett Street that can be more effectively monitored by TTOR staff. The previous bylaw had required that TTOR provide many smaller parking lots scattered throughout the property.

Longer Terms for Open Space Committee Members

The 2010 Annual Town Meeting also approved a bylaw change that will enable the Board of Selectmen to appoint their representatives to the Open Space Committee to three-year terms. The Planning Board and Conservation Commission shall continue to appoint their representatives to one-year terms. Prior to this bylaw change, all members of the Open Space Committee had been appointed to one-year terms.

Trail Signage

The Open Space Committee continues to work with Jerry Arnold of the Long Range Planning Committee to better mark both the boundaries

and the trails of Town-owned reservations, especially Wylde Woods on Centre Street.

Chapter 61B Property

Owners of a 22-acre property on the Charles River contacted the Board of Selectmen about the possible purchase of their land. Since the property is under Chapter 61B (a tax abatement program), the Town of Dover has the right of first refusal to purchase the land. As the year draws to a close, the Open Space Committee continues to work with the Board of Selectmen, the Dover Land Conservation Trust, The Trustees of Reservations, and the Trust for Public Land on this project.

The Open Space Committee looks forward to working with Dover residents to create and maintain public open spaces and to protect residents’ drinking-water supplies.



Photo courtesy of the Parks and Recreation Commission.