



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
Minutes

1 Present: Gene Harrington; Paul Nickerson; Truda Bloom; Marge Badois; Mike Speltz, alternate;
2 and Kellie Walsh, alternate

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4 G. Harrington called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. He appointed M. Speltz to vote for Mike
5 Considine and K. Walsh to vote for Deb Lievens.

6
7 Musquash; fundraiser use request by Destination Imagination- A Londonderry Destination
8 Imagination (DI) team recently requested the use of the Musquash Conservation Area to hold
9 an Airsoft War as a fundraiser for cancer research (see January 28, 2014 minutes). Questions
10 were raised about specifics and Commissioner Mike Considine contacted the representative
11 for more information, inviting him to attend this meeting.

12 Londonderry DI team members Trevor Melanson, Megan Maher and Evan Plerinsky
13 were present to explain their proposal. To raise money for cancer awareness and research,
14 the Airsoft War would take place on April 12 for approximately three to four hours, during
15 which time various teams will take turns using a designated roped off area. Biodegradable
16 BBs and spring or battery powered air rifles are used in a paintball-type game typically played
17 by teens, although T. Melanson said adults take part as well. The guns range from pump
18 action to semi-automatic to fully automatic. Funds would be generated mainly through a
19 cover charge, but fees from the renting of Airsoft guns and eye protection would supplement
20 that, as would donations. About 30 to 50 people are expected to participate, meaning an
21 area slightly larger than the campfire area at the landing in the Musquash would be needed.
22 M. Maher explained that the Musquash was chosen because of the combination of possible
23 hiding places as well as more open areas for participants to utilize. M. Considine had
24 suggested using an area near the High School used in the past for Halloween events, however
25 T. Melanson the School District declined to be involved because of the use of weapons.
26 Commissioners suggested using the Town Common, but the DI team did not anticipate it
27 would provide the range of cover and open space that the Musquash could offer.

28 Commissioners raised several questions, the main one being about the chemical
29 composition of the BBs and how long it takes them to decompose, particularly since some
30 may be ingested by wildlife in the Musquash. T. Melanson said the team would research the
31 question and provide the Commission with the information. He added that team members
32 perform a "police line" sweep of the area after the conclusion of the event to make sure any
33 discarded materials or trash items are removed. When asked how others using the popular
34 recreation area (e.g. hikers) will be made aware of the event, the DI team replied that a half
35 dozen members and additional adults walk the perimeter of the designated area to make
36 others aware of the event. The team is looking for an area in the Musquash that is more
37 remote in order to avoid contact with visitors using the trail system. G. Harrington noted
38 that because of the many entry points to the Musquash, team members will need to be
39 aware that visitors could be coming from a variety of directions. The team was asked to



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40 provide more specifics about the area of the Musquash to be used once it is chosen. M.
41 Speltz also recommended the team investigate the issue of liability on the parts of both the
42 Town and DI. M. Maher suggested that disclaimers could be placed on the flyers to be used
43 to announce the event and M. Speltz noted that a waiver signed at the event could be useful,
44 but he urged the team to research all the legal aspects of liability.

45 Commissioners once again recommended using the Town Forest instead of the
46 Musquash since it would provide more parking than the Musquash, is closer to and more
47 accessible for emergency services if they are needed, and would actually provide the cover
48 and open area the team is looking for, and is not as close to residential neighborhoods as are
49 some areas of the Musquash. G. Harrington explained that since the Town Forest is better
50 delineated, it would make it easier to control a designated area while at the same time
51 making the perimeter clear to outsiders in an area not used as much for recreation, especially
52 through the use of some form of notification. The team said they would look into the use of
53 the Town Forest as well as researching the answers to the unanswered questions from this
54 discussion.

55
56 Musquash Field Day- Commissioners discussed the results of this annual event which took
57 place on February 15. It was estimated that at least 125 people attended and took part in
58 the various activities. M. Speltz suggested that for the 2015 Field Day, those activities, which
59 include hikes and demonstrations, be arranged into a schedule beforehand in order to
60 provide those interested the ability to better plan their involvement and take advantage of
61 specific offerings. M. Badois also suggested placing signage on High Range Road the day of
62 the event and offered to make the signage for next year.

63
64 DRCs- 1. Twin's Smoke Shop; Change of Use Site Plan (office to retail), Map 15 Lot 55.

65 No comments.

66
67 2. Workplace Systems Lot Line Adjustment and Rezoning, Map 15 Lots 235 & 239.

68 Comments: The plan does not make clear what some of the symbols on Parcel A
69 mean. We assume conveyance implies no further soil disturbance.

70
71 February 11, 2014 minutes- T. Bloom noted that the description involving Destination
72 Imagination on line 34 should be amended to read "A Londonderry Destination Imagination
73 Team." There was no disagreement to do so. **T. Bloom made a motion to approve the
74 minutes of the February 11, 2014 public session as amended. M. Speltz seconded. The
75 motion was approved, 5-0-1** with P. Nickerson abstaining as he had not attended the
76 meeting.

77
78 Doyle acquisition- M. Speltz provided P. Nickerson with an update about this potential



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79 acquisition as he was not present at the February 11 meeting. Following the annual Town
80 Meeting, M. Speltz will be coordinating with Town Council Liaison Tom Dolan and the Town
81 Manager to place the item on an upcoming Town Council agenda. He added that the Town's
82 GIS Manager/Comprehensive Planner has been keeping the owner apprised of the situation.
83 The Commission recommended the purchase of a conservation easement on the property to
84 the Town Council on January 14.

85

86 **M. Speltz made motion to adjourn the meeting. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was**
87 **approved, 6-0-0.**

88

89 The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 PM.

90

91 Respectfully submitted,

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94

95 Jaye Trottier

96 Associate Planner