



Londonderry Conservation Commission  
Tuesday, June 25, 2013  
Minutes

1 Present: Deb Lievens; Gene Harrington; Mike Considine; Marge Badois; and Mike Speltz

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3 D. Lievens called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. She appointed M. Speltz to vote for Truda Bloom.

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5 CIP- M. Speltz stated he would have a draft submission for the FY 2015-2020 Capital Improvements Plan  
6 (CIP) ready for the Commission to review at the July 9, 2013 meeting.

7

8 Outdoor Recreation Guide & Management Plan- D. Lievens reported that instead of posting the Request  
9 for Proposals for the Outdoor Recreation and Management Plan (see June 11, 2013 minutes), Planning  
10 Staff has suggested the Commission utilize the department's third party Economic Development  
11 consultant, the Arnett Development Group. D. Lievens noted that she would like to see a natural  
12 history component included in the guide. She and M. Speltz will make arrangements through Staff to  
13 meet with Stuart Arnett in the very near future.

14

15 Invasive plant species (Phragmites & Purple Loosestrife)- Entomologist Michael Morrison of Municipal  
16 Pest Management Services, Inc. informed D. Lievens that the area on map 6 lot 113 slated for the  
17 removal of Phragmites is upstream from a State designated water protection area. While he does  
18 not believe his activities will have any adverse impact on the water quality, he said he will work with  
19 the State Wetlands Bureau to adequately address the situation. D. Lievens added that she has not  
20 yet heard back from the Town Attorney regarding the contract that will engage M. Morrison's  
21 services.

22

23 At the May 14, 2013 meeting, D. Lievens stated that interns of the New England Wildflower  
24 Society (NEWFS) would be donating their time in July to help in the ongoing effort to remove Purple  
25 Loosestrife from the wetland in the flax field on Pillsbury Road. The proposed July 12 date, however,  
26 conflicts with another NEWFS projects. Before setting an alternative date, D. Lievens said she would  
27 investigate conditions at the flax field to determine whether the Galerucella beetles introduced there  
28 several years ago have managed to curtail the spread of the loosestrife to the extent that manual  
29 removal could be postponed for a year.

29

30 Target shooting in the Musquash- M. Considine stated that he contacted State Conservation Officer  
31 Chris Brison again to learn how the State is able to preclude target shooting with firearms at State parks.  
32 M. Speltz spoke with Bob Spoerl of the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development  
33 (DRED) and conveyed the suggestion that the Commission determine what authority is cited in NH  
34 statutes that prohibit target shooting on DRED owned properties. M. Speltz offered to perform that  
35 research with the goal of finding a way to use the same authority to address target shooting on Town  
36 owned land. M. Considine said C. Brison recommended posting the Musquash against target shooting,  
37 although he believed C. Brison had also advised the Commission not to do so in an earlier conversation.  
38 He will seek clarification on the issue. If posting is possible, the Commission agreed that it be made  
39 clear that hunting during assigned seasons is permitted. M. Considine will also provide the Acting



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40 Town Manager with an update in the near future.

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42 New England Cottontail- M. Considine reported that the area cleared to create habitat for the  
43 endangered NE Cottontail Rabbit is beginning to regenerate. There had been some concern that the  
44 clear cut would invite illegal ATV use, but M. Considine said ATV activity there appears to be limited.  
45 He added that when he has witnessed any ATV use, he has informed the riders that it is not a permitted  
46 use of the area.

47 D. Lievens stated that approximately \$6,500 has been received from the sale of the timber and  
48 that the timber tax currently in escrow will eventually be added to the Conservation Fund as well.

49

50 Monitoring- D. Lievens informed Commissioners that fellow member Truda Bloom will be presenting an  
51 updated spreadsheet in the near future regarding monitoring activities on all conservation easements  
52 and Town owned lands.

53 At the May 28, 2013 meeting, Commissioners had voted to authorize the Chair to obtain an  
54 estimate from the Rockingham County Conservation District (RCCD) for monitoring of the Ingersoll  
55 easements on map 1, lots 1 and 3-2 in fiscal year 2013/2014. D. Lievens presented the estimate from  
56 RCCD totaling \$650 to monitor both easements. **M. Speltz made a motion to authorize the Chair to  
57 expend an amount not to exceed \$650.00 from the line item budget to hire RCCD to monitor the  
58 conservation easements on map 1, lots 1 and 3-2 in fiscal year 2013/2014. G. Harrington  
59 seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.**

60

61 Dog Park (proposed site on map and lot 5-62)- Commissioners reviewed a draft proposal of the Town's  
62 Dog Park Study Committee that will be formally presented at the July 9 meeting (see Attachment #1).  
63 The Committee is seeking the Commission's input on the possibility of placing a portion of the .55 acre  
64 dog park within the conservation easement on map 5 lot 62. After reviewing the terms of the  
65 easement deed, Commissioners agreed that three conditions would be violated by construction of a  
66 dog park within the easement: 1) the original intent of the easement would be contradicted since its  
67 purpose is to provide wildlife habitat associated with the Nesenkeag wetland, including endangered  
68 turtles, and to preserve the wildlife corridor located there; 2) one of the use restrictions in the deed  
69 specifies that there will be no "removal, filling, or other disturbance of the soil surface, topography,"  
70 etc.; and 3) the deed requires that the land be "maintained as open space in perpetuity." While the  
71 deed does allow for amendments, those modifications cannot "materially change the conservation  
72 purposes." Since the goal of the easement is to preserve wildlife corridors and habitat, a dog park  
73 would arguably frustrate that intent. D. Lievens said she would also research the involvement of NH  
74 Fish and Game during the establishment of the easement to review their input on wildlife in that area.  
75 She will also consult the Town Attorney.

76

77 Tanager Landing trail (parking)- Recent complaints by residents on Tanager Way have been received  
78 by Town Staff regarding the parking of cars along that road to gain access to the walking trail



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79 originating on map 5, lot 12, which is Town owned property. Concerns included the potential  
80 obstruction of emergency vehicles. M. Considine volunteered to speak with the Public Works  
81 Department about the possibility of installing posts on the front corners of 5-12 along with signage  
82 indicating that off-street parking is available on the grass in that location only. If Public Works is  
83 amenable to the idea, M. Considine will contact Dig Safe before installing the posts. Consensus from  
84 Commissioners was for M. Considine to pursue the task.

85

86 Kendall Pond Conservation Area (KPCA)- M. Considine stated that a new complaint about trash and  
87 possible illegal activities at the KPCA was recently relayed to him (see October 23, 2012 minutes). He  
88 said he would be speaking with Londonderry Trailways about the issue, but noted that a solution to  
89 the problem would need to come from a coordinated effort involving other entities, including the  
90 Town and the Police Department.

91

92 DRC- Lorden Commons (Chinburg) Subdivision Plan Amendment Map 16 Lot 38-

93 No comments (Note: the Commission first reviewed the approved 2013 conservation subdivision  
94 plan to ensure that the proposed location of the cistern would not impact any delineated wetlands).

95

96 June 11, 2013 minutes- **M. Speltz made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2013 public**  
97 **session as written. G. Harrington seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-1 with M. Badois**  
98 **abstaining as she had not attended the meeting.**

99 **M. Speltz made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2013 non-public session as**  
100 **written. G. Harrington seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-1 with M. Badois abstaining as**  
101 **she had not attended the meeting.**

102

103 **G. Harrington made motion to adjourn the meeting. M. Badois seconded. The motion was**  
104 **approved, 5-0-0.**

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106 The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 PM.

107

108 Respectfully submitted,

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111

112 Jaye Trottier

113 Associate Planner

