



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, April 24, 2012
Minutes
Page 1 of 2

1 Present: Deb Lievens and Gene Harrington

2

3 Also present: Resident Marge Badois

4

5 D. Lievens called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

6

7 National Moth Week- D. Lievens announced that the first annual National Moth Week will take place
8 the week of July 23. She hopes to coordinate an event for Londonderry residents, perhaps after (or
9 even during) the July 24 Conservation Commission meeting.

10

11 New England Cottontail Habitat- The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) relayed to D.
12 Lievens that they will be speaking with resident Andy Mack about the possibility of utilizing a portion
13 of his land to aid in the preservation of this endangered species. The goal is to create a habitat using
14 the kind of dense shrub land the rabbits depend on for survival. In 2010, NRCS had been working
15 with Town Forester Charlie Moreno and the Conservation Commission to convert a forested portion
16 of the Musquash Conservation Area for the same purpose (although to date this has not occurred).

17

18 Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund grant- The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
19 (NH DES) recently announced the acceptance of applications for their Aquatic Resource Mitigation
20 Fund grant. Pre-proposals are due April 30, leaving the Commission without the time needed to
21 obtain approval from the Town Council to pursue the grant. Because of this, as well as the small
22 amount being sought (see below), Commissioner Mike Speltz has advised it would not be worthwhile
23 to apply at this time.

24

25 Invasive plant species (Phragmites)- In 2011, the invasive Phragmites species was found on map and
26 lot 6-113 during a wetland restoration project. The evaluation and some mitigation were funded by
27 an Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) Fund grant awarded to the Town, however no grant monies
28 remain to subsidize the removal of the Phragmites. D. Lievens' research has shown the cost could be
29 upwards of \$3,000 (due in part to the work requiring a professional with an appropriate aquatic
30 license). Although applications for another round of ARM grants are being accepted by NH DES, the
31 April 30 deadline (see above), coupled with the relatively small amount needed has led Commissioner
32 Mike Speltz to conclude it would not be worthwhile to apply at this time. D. Lievens suggested
33 instead that the Commission consider using money from the Conservation Fund. This topic will be
34 addressed again when more Commissioners are present.

35

36 Joint Negotiating Committee- At the April 10 meeting, the Commission decided to have D. Lievens
37 inquire with the Town Manager whether the At-Large position for this committee had been or will be
38 advertised. The Town Manager replied that he will present the idea of advertising to the Town
39 Council. (An article about the topic appeared in the Union Leader after the April 10 meeting since a
40 reporter from the paper was in attendance).

41

42 Manchester Greenways Project (SPNHF & SNHPC)- The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire
43 Forests and the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission are working together to develop a



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, April 24, 2012
Minutes
Page 2 of 2

44 trail network between regional towns using Manchester as a hub. A meeting will take place at SNHPC
45 in Manchester on May 3 at 6:30 PM.

46
47 Wire Belt CUP (28-31-30)- Engineer Jeff Merritt of Keach Nordstrom Associates was joined by Scott
48 Whitney of Sullivan Construction to review a site plan involving a 12,212 square foot addition and the
49 remodeling of 3,200 sf of existing space at the Wire Belt facility on Harvey Road. A 938 square foot
50 manmade wetland on the southeast portion of the site (resulting from a prior detention pond), would
51 be filled to allow the expansion of an existing stormwater management basin. The objective of this
52 presentation, however, was to obtain a positive recommendation from the Commission to the
53 Planning Board regarding a Conditional Use Permit. The replacement of a pipe associated with the
54 aforementioned basin expansion would result in 1,171 sf of Conservation Overlay District buffer
55 impact. In reviewing the circumstances, both D. Lievens and G. Harrington noted that just south of
56 the parcel, the wetland complex narrows to a width of less than 20 feet. In accordance with the COD
57 buffer ordinance, the acreage of any portion "separated" by a segment less than 50 feet wide is
58 considered separate from the acreage of the overall wetland. In addition, any wetland less than a
59 half acre in size is not protected under the buffer ordinance. The portion of the wetland in question
60 north of the narrow segment is less than a half acre in size, therefore no buffer applies and a CUP
61 request is moot. D. Lievens said she would write a letter to the Planning Board explaining this.

62
63 DRC- Wire Belt expansion (28-31-30);
64 Comments: Requested that snow storage be in the northeast corner for the eastern parking lot
65 and as far from the detention pond as possible for the new parking area.

66
67 The meeting adjourned by consensus at 8:10 PM.

68
69 Respectfully submitted,

70
71
72
73 Jaye Trottier
74 Secretary