



Londonderry Conservation Commission

Tuesday, July 10, 2012

Minutes

Page 1 of 3

1 Present: Deb Lievens; Gene Harrington; Mike Considine; Ben LaBrecque; Truda Bloom; Marge Badois; and
2 Tom Dolan, Town Council Liaison

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4 D. Lievens called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and appointed M. Badois to vote for the empty seat.

5
6 New England Cottontail Habitat- At the June 12 meeting, Wildlife Biologist Heidi Holman of New
7 Hampshire Fish & Game (F&G) and Town Forester Charlie Moreno presented a draft management plan for
8 New England Cottontail habitat in the Musquash (see June 12 minutes). The Commission had decided to
9 revisit the issue at a subsequent meeting to discuss their support for the project. At the June 26 meeting,
10 the consensus was to relay to H. Holman that the Commission would like to support the long-term plan but
11 that the Town is not in a position to fund it. Financial support, Commissioners agreed, should come from
12 Federal funding. H. Holman was already informed at the June 12 meeting that the Town would need
13 assistance with an outreach program to educate the public about the visual impact that clear cutting will
14 have on a portion of a popular recreational area. D. Lievens stated that H. Holman is currently researching
15 answers to the issues posed by the Commission.

16
17 Invasive plant species (Phragmites)- At the April 24, June 12, and June 26 meetings, D. Lievens provided
18 updates regarding removal of the invasive Phragmites species from the wetland on map and lot 6-113.
19 During a recent site visit with an invasive species specialist, it was determined that the Phragmites most
20 likely encroaches onto three adjacent lots; map 6, lots 110-3, 110-4, and 110-5. Letters were sent to these
21 landowners requesting permission to access the affected areas of their lots so that the necessary aquatic
22 herbicide can be applied by the invasives specialist. D. Lievens has received written permission from one
23 owner and verbal permission from another. She will follow up in order to get written permission from both
24 the latter and the owner who has not responded to date. Even if work cannot commence this year, the
25 area is so rarely disturbed that the continued spread of the Phragmites will be minimal.

26
27 Identify methods to connect with community- At the June 26 meeting, the Commission discussed various
28 means of cultivating interest amongst residents in the larger conservation lands in town, much like the
29 interest that has grown over the years in protecting the Musquash Conservation Area. If people begin
30 visiting such sites as the Ingersoll property and the Kendall Pond Conservation Area, the same sense of
31 responsibility can be fostered and provide greater stewardship for those lands. As a member of
32 Londonderry Trailways, M. Considine will present to that group concepts brought up by the Commission at
33 their July 26 meeting, i.e. creation of both a stewardship/public outreach subcommittee and a
34 comprehensive Londonderry trail guide. (D. Lievens provided several examples of trail guides from other
35 towns at this meeting). The Commission had also entertained the idea of developing a Request for
36 Proposals (RFP) to locate a professional who can take the time needed to create a trail guide and also
37 review Town files of conserved lands to verify what is accessible to the public and what activities are
38 allowed and/or prohibited.

39
40 Kendall Pond Conservation Area- D. Lievens stated that she has received emails expressing concerns about
41 illegal activities occurring at the Kendall Pond Conservation Area, as well as a lack of maintenance related
42 to bridges and the trailhead kiosk. Police Chief Bill Hart informed D. Lievens that the police are



Londonderry Conservation Commission

Tuesday, July 10, 2012

Minutes

Page 2 of 3

43 investigating the illegal activities and currently have two outstanding warrants for those involved. M.
44 Considine volunteered to perform a site visit and assess issues related to maintenance.

45
46 National Moth Week- The first annual National Moth Week will take place the week of July 23. D. Lievens
47 will be presenting an educational slide show about moths at the July 24 Conservation Commission meeting
48 and weather permitting, will hold a demonstration in the Town Hall parking area during or after the
49 meeting.

50
51 Town Planner- D. Lievens informed Commissioners that Town Planner Cynthia May will be attending the
52 July 24 meeting. She asked that they be prepared with any questions they may have or issues they would
53 like to discuss.

54
55 Parking in the Musquash- Over the last several years, the Commission has discussed the concept of creating
56 a parking area at the Hickory Hill entrance to the Musquash on land owned by Public Service of New
57 Hampshire (PSNH). When asked, PSNH requested that the Town first develop a plan for review. M.
58 Considine recently spoke with the Assistant Town Engineer to obtain the Town's input on such a project.
59 The two will soon coordinate a site visit so it can be clearly defined what the Town would or would not
60 allow. M. Considine added that Londonderry Trailways is working to post signage at the various Musquash
61 trailheads that will specify where parking is permitted to prevent visitors from parking on private property.

62
63 DRCs- 1. Orchard Christian Fellowship Site Plan (Church) (6-18-2);

64 Comments: Conservation Commission recommends the planting of native trees and shrubs for the
65 landscaping.

66
67 2. Wolfinger 2-Lot Subdivision Site Plan (12-106);

68 No comments

69
70 June 12, 2012 minutes (re-approval)- Although the June 12, 2012 public session minutes were approved at
71 the June 26 meeting, it was noted afterwards that the description of funding for land stewardship was
72 erroneous (page one, lines 10-12). What originally read as "...the Town Attorney has determined that the
73 Commission has the ability to use non-bonded funds (e.g. the Conservation Fund as opposed to the Open
74 Space Plan Fund) on stewardship efforts..." was corrected by Commissioner Mike Speltz to read "...the
75 Town Attorney has determined that the Commission has the ability to use non-bonded monies in the Open
76 Space Fund for stewardship efforts..." **G. Harrington made a motion to re-approve the minutes of the**
77 **June 12, 2012 public session as corrected.** **B. LaBrecque seconded. The motion was approved, 7-0-0.**

78
79 June 26, 2012 minutes- **G. Harrington made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2012 public**
80 **session as written.** **M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 3-0-3 with B. LaBrecque, T.**
81 **Bloom, and M. Badois abstaining as they had not attended the meeting.**

82 G. Harrington noted a typographical error on page one, line 18 of the June 26 non-public minutes.
83 **He then made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2012 non-public session as amended.** **M.**
84 **Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 3-0-3 with B. LaBrecque, T. Bloom, and M. Badois**
85 **abstaining as they had not attended the meeting.**



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, July 10, 2012
Minutes
Page 3 of 3

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NH Coverts Project Workshop- D. Lievens made Commissioners aware of the UNH Cooperative Extension’s Coverts Project which “trains volunteers to promote wildlife habitat conservation and forest stewardship.”

G. Harrington made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 for the purpose of discussing possible land acquisitions. M. Considine seconded.

Roll call vote: Aye, Gene Harrington; Aye, Mike Considine; Aye, Ben LaBrecque; Aye, Deb Lievens; Aye, Truda Bloom; Aye, Marge Badois; and Aye, Tom Dolan.

G. Harrington made a motion to go out of Non-Public Session. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.

G. Harrington made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session indefinitely. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.

G. Harrington made a motion that the Commission encourage the landowner who expressed interest in selling a conservation easement to the Town to proceed forward. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.

CIP- Submissions for the Capital Improvement Plan are due July 20. **G. Harrington made a motion to maintain a CIP request at the levels submitted in 2011. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.** Commissioner Mike Speltz will be preparing the submission.

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaye Trottier
Secretary