



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, May 10, 2011
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1 Present: Deb Lievens, Gene Harrington, Mike Considine, Paul Nickerson, Ben LaBrecque, Ken Henault, and
2 Mike Speltz (late)

3
4 D. Lievens called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM and appointed K. Henault to vote for Truda Bloom.
5

6 Master Plan Update Committee- The Town Planner recently sent a request to all Boards and Committees for a
7 representative from each to comprise the Master Plan Update Steering Committee. It was suggested that G.
8 Herrmann might be interested in representing the LCC. When M. Speltz arrived later in the evening, he
9 offered to be an alternate representative to fill in whenever the chosen representative cannot attend the
10 meetings.
11

12 Open Space Task Force public meeting- D. Lievens reminded Commissioners that a special public meeting will
13 be held by the Open Space Task Force on May 25 at 7PM in the Moose Hill Council Chambers to obtain input,
14 ideas, and comments from Londonderry residents about future development and conservation in town. (See
15 also "I-93 wildlife crossings").
16

17 Merrill easement- D. Lievens announced that this proposed easement on map and lot 17-10 will be going
18 before the Town Council on May 16 for their approval. She said that the easement deed and Purchase and
19 Sale agreement are both nearly complete. She has asked the Rockingham County Conservation District, who
20 will hold the easement, to review the language but has not heard back from them.
21

22 M. Speltz arrived at approximately 7:45 during the following discussion. D. Lievens appointed him to vote for
23 G. Herrmann.
24

25 ARM grant- Gove Environmental Services has completed their assessment of the wetlands on map and lot 6-
26 113 and provided their recommendations as part of the restoration project of the Nesenkeag Brook
27 Headwaters on that lot. Their foremost recommendation is to manage the two invasive plant species found
28 on the property, one of which crosses over onto abutting lots. D. Lievens explained that the remainder of the
29 grant monies obtained through the Aquatic Resource Mitigation fund will be used to combat the invasives as
30 part of the wetland restoration.

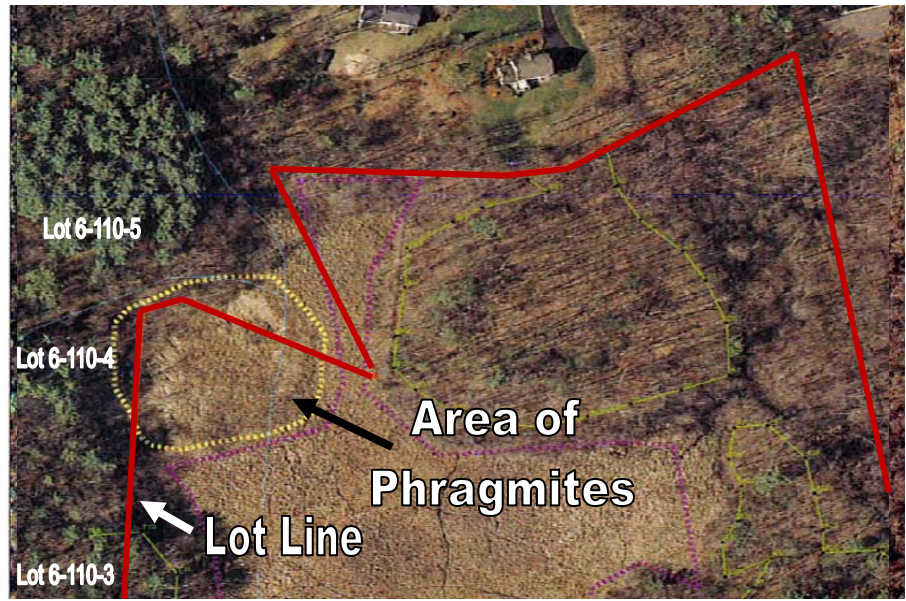
31 Purple Loosestrife was found to be "evenly intermixed across entire emergent portion of the wetland
32 with numerous other desirable species." Because of this, herbicide spraying is not recommended because of
33 the risk to those desirable species. Instead, Galerucella beetles would be the most appropriate way to
34 naturally combat the loosestrife. These self-sustaining beetles feed exclusively on purple loosestrife and have
35 been successful over several years in the flax field wetland off Pillsbury Road (map and lot 6-18). Their efficacy
36 should be even greater at this location since there will be no disturbance to the beetles such as the mowing
37 that takes place annually on 6-18. Although this technique will take longer to achieve the desired results and
38 will not rid the area of loosestrife altogether, it will slow its growth and should prevent it from spreading
39 further into the wetland. D. Lievens said three batches of 200+ beetles each should be adequate to establish a
40 functional colony and would cost under \$1,000.



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41 Phragmites was the second
42 invasive species found on the
43 property, which can be controlled
44 with herbicide spraying performed
45 by a licensed professional. A
46 permit from the Department of
47 Agriculture to apply pesticide in a
48 wetland may be required. D.
49 Lievens will contact Prescott Towle
50 who performed the removal of
51 bittersweet from the Town Forest
52 in the fall of 2010 and obtain a cost
53 quote from him. The location of
54 the Phragmites, however, poses an
55 issue since it spreads across the lot
56 line of 6-113 onto lots 6-110-3,
57 110-4, and 110-5 (see Fig. 1). The

Fig. 1



58 The consensus was to send a letter to those landowners, requesting their permission to spray on their property. It
59 will include the reassurance that the herbicide will post no threat to their drinking water supply.

60
61 Flooding issue, Verani & Evans properties- Larry Keniston of the NH Department of Transportation Rail and
62 Transit Bureau had sent an email to the LCC regarding a perpetual flooding on property owned by the Evans
63 family because of work done by the Veranis on lot 16-5 (see January 25 and February 8 minutes). M. Speltz
64 visited the site and located the edge of the parking lot using a GPS device. He will forward the waypoints to
65 the GIS Manager and ask that he digitize them using the 2000 Verani site plan to see if there was any
66 encroachment on the wetland at that time. If any issues are uncovered, the LCC will forward the information
67 to the NH Department of Environmental Services.

68
69 Thibeault wetland complaint- NH DES provided the LCC with a copy of a letter sent to Ernie Thibeault, owner
70 of 342 Rockingham Road, about possible wetland violations on that property (map 17, lot 19). A complaint
71 filed with DES alleges that jurisdictional wetlands have been filled without proper authorization from the
72 State. The LCC expressed concern that if any wetlands have been filled, the conservation easement on the
73 eastern portion of that property may have been impacted as well. While DES investigates the situation, M.
74 Speltz offered to perform research using Google maps to show the changes in the conditions of that area over
75 time.

76
77 Musquash update- M. Considine reported that the new posts and signs continue to be installed in the
78 Musquash Conservation Area by the various boy scouts associated with the project (see April 12 minutes). He
79 said a Trail Day to be held in the Musquash with Londonderry Trailways and various volunteers on Saturday,
80 May 14 will entail at least the initial phases of bridge construction on the Yellow Trail and Betty Mack Loop, if



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81 not the completion of the two, and will reroute areas of both trails to remove them from wet areas. Two
82 other Trail Days will take place this year, one in June and the other in late fall.

83
84 SPNH/SNHPC Manchester Greenways Project- The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, in
85 cooperation with the Southern NH Planning Commission, is sponsoring the Manchester Greenways Project to
86 support the development of a trail network with Manchester and directly adjacent communities.
87 Development of the program's master plan, of which Manchester will be the trail hub, involves input from
88 those surrounding towns as to what destinations would be available for recreation, shopping, work related
89 activities, etc. Aside from asking LCC members for their ideas, he asked M. Considine to pass along a request
90 to speak at a Londonderry Trailways meeting. He added that the final recommendations of the Open Space
91 Task Force will be helpful to SPNH as well. To assist SPNH in obtaining grant funding for the project, the
92 consensus of the LCC was for M. Speltz to draft a letter of support for review at the next meeting.

93
94 I-93 wildlife crossings- M. Speltz noted a topic of discussion at the May 5 meeting of the OSTF related to the
95 expansion of I-93. Although much of the planning for that project has been completed, the Task Force has
96 expressed concern for the hindrance it will be to wildlife and plant migration across the highway. While it is
97 expected that the NH Department of Transportation has made allowances for some movement through
98 various "critter crossings," the Task Force decided to contact DOT to see what has been planned and whether
99 any further action can be negotiated if need be. M. Speltz will draft a letter for the LCC's approval requesting
100 a DOT representative attend an upcoming LCC meeting or at least provide the details of the proposed design.

101
102 DRC- 124-126 Rockingham Road LLC Gas Station Site Plan, 16-72 & 74

103 Comments: No comments

104
105 April 26, 2011 minutes- **M. Considine made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2011 public**
106 **session as written. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-3 with M. Considine, K. Henault,**
107 **and M. Speltz abstaining as they had not attended the meeting.**

108
109 **G. Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting. M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved,**
110 **7-0-0** and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 PM.

111
112 Respectfully submitted,

113
114
115
116 Jaye Trottier
117 Secretary