



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, Sept 28, 2010
Minutes
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1 **Present: Deb Lievens, Gene Harrington, Mike Considine, Truda Bloom, Ben LaBrecque, and Mike Speltz**

2
3 **Also present: Tom Dolan, Town Council Liaison**

4
5 D. Lievens called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and appointed M. Speltz to vote for Paul Nickerson.

6
7 Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund- Surveyors hired to develop the wetland restoration plan on map and lot
8 6-113 recently discovered an issue with ownership on the property (see August 24 minutes). Town Counsel
9 forwarded the documents needed to resolve the issue to the attorney of Jean Gagnon, the current owner
10 of the northeastern half of the lot. D. Lievens and M. Speltz reported that they have been in contact with
11 the Town Attorney and the Town Manager to expedite the process and will continue to do so. D. Lievens
12 has consequently informed the surveyors that their work can begin soon. Even without the paperwork
13 completed, it was posed that the surveyors could start with J. Gagnon's approval. M. Speltz has kept the
14 Department of Environmental Services informed of the progress.

15 Harold Kicza, owner of both 86 and 88 Adams Road, received the LCC's letter sent to all direct
16 abutters explaining the impending surveying as well as the potential need to access 6-113 through private
17 property. He contacted the LCC to offer his land at 88 Adams as a means of access should they need it. In
18 examining the conservation land around that parcel (6-90-1), M. Speltz suggested approaching H. Kicza
19 about purchasing the property or an easement on it. Doing so would link the combined 90 acres of 6-113
20 and adjoining conservation land to its west with over 31.5 acres of protected land on the other side of
21 Adams Road that stretches down behind Dianna Road.

22
23 Town Forest- Monadnock Forest Products has performed the tree cutting at the Town Common along with
24 a selective cut in the Town Forest. M. Oswald reported at the August 24 meeting that the Public Works
25 Department should be able to remove and grind the leftover stumps. D. Lievens said she has not received
26 word from him, however, as to whether the DPW can loam and seed the picnic area as well.

27 D. Lievens explained that any changes to the stone wall currently separating the picnic area from
28 the rest of the Town Common is the purview of the Heritage Commission as they are stewards of the
29 Common. G. Harrington pointed out that Kevin Gardner, author of *The Granite Kiss*, will be presenting
30 *Discovering New England Stone Walls* on September 30 at the Grange Hall.

31 State licensed pesticide professional Prescott Towle completed his first round of the effort to
32 remove the invasive Oriental Bittersweet from the Town Forest. He commented to D. Lievens that the
33 work was made easier by the selective cut done prior to his work. Funds from the sale of that timber will
34 be put into the Conservation Fund and used to fund the ongoing project. **D. Lievens entertained a motion**
35 **to authorize the Chair to expend an amount not to exceed \$887.50 from the Conservation Fund to pay**
36 **Prescott Towell for the invasive species removal performed in the Town Forest. G. Harrington so moved.**
37 **M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.**

38 P. Towell also noted that there is a significant amount of poison ivy in the forest. G. Harrington said
39 the best way to remove it successfully is to use Glyphosphate sometime in the second half of July after the
40 plant has bloomed.

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42 Monitoring- At the August 24 meeting, the LCC voted to expend up to \$650 to hire the Rockingham County
43 Conservation District to perform the annual monitoring of the Ingersoll easement as they have done in
44 prior years. D. Lievens reported that a graduate student has been assigned by RCCD at a cost of \$600.

45 She still has yet to hear from the Director of RCCD about two other issues discussed recently, i.e.:
46 1) Whether RCCD will take ownership of the first phase of Sunnycrest easements since they own the second
47 and third and; 2) How RCCD's cost to monitor a potential easement on a property discussed in the August
48 24 non-public session might be impacted by the fact that it directly abuts an easement they already inspect.

49 The LCC then discussed annual monitoring efforts of various conservation easements, some of
50 which are done annually and others that are due to be performed. The LCC secretary will be organizing
51 field files for Commissioners and will purchase the appropriate weather resistant jackets as discussed.
52

53 Musquash trails- M. Considine informed Commissioners that he has posted entrances to the Musquash
54 Conservation Area with signs notifying visitors that hunting season has started and explaining what bow,
55 muzzle loading, and firearm seasons are. D. Lievens explained that as a multi-use conservation area,
56 hunting has been permitted in the Musquash since its purchase in 1979.

57 M. Considine then reviewed upcoming changes to the Musquash trails map, which should be
58 completed by the end of the year. He identified trails that have been created and pointed out sections of
59 others on the current map that will be removed in order to discourage their use. Certain trails will be
60 rerouted as part of the Londonderry Trailways "Trails Day" to take place on November 6. The new map will
61 also show the trailhead originating on Tanager Way. When completed, every intersection in the Musquash
62 will feature a post with a map applied to a metal placard. As he explained at the June 22 meeting, each
63 numbered post will display the same map, always placed on its north side and always pointing the reader
64 north.

65 M. Considine asked for the LCC's opinion of changing the name of the Betty Mack Trail to the more
66 accurate "Betty Mack Loop." The consensus was to do so. He added that the eastern portion of the new
67 White Trail where it forks been renamed the "Ravine Trail."

68 M. Speltz suggested contacting Roger Mathes about a trail easement for the portion of the Green
69 Trail that meanders along part of the northern boundary of his property on map and lot 8-21. The land is
70 not posted against trespassing, nor has R. Mathes ever objected, but G. Harrington pointed out an
71 easement may be prudent with respect to future owners. M. Speltz added that requesting the easement
72 could lead to a discussion about constructing a trail through another portion of his land that would connect
73 the Musquash to the 139 acres of protected land on map and lot 5-12. M. Considine said that R. Mathes'
74 main concern has always been exposing his land to ATV use.

75 D. Lievens commented on the impressive amount of trail work done in the Musquash and thanked
76 M. Considine for his contributions.
77

78 BioBlitz- The preceding conversation about the Musquash led to M. Speltz suggesting a BioBlitz be
79 performed there. He explained a BioBlitz is a concentrated effort of various biology specialists to execute a
80 qualitative inventory of a given area in a short period of time, typically one day. D. Lievens said an
81 extensive inventory was done years ago but said an update could be useful.
82



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83 NHACC meeting- D. Lievens informed LCC members that the annual meeting of the NH Association of
84 Conservation Commissions will take place Saturday, November 6. G. Harrington noted that 2010 is the 40th
85 anniversary of the NHACC.

86
87 Alteration of Terrain requirements- M. Speltz shared with Commissioners something he learned recently
88 regarding State requirements for stormwater runoff. Whereas pre and post development runoff rates have
89 to remain the same, there was never a similar restriction on the amount of total runoff. New DES
90 Alteration of Terrain Program requirements state that based on the soils of the land in question, a
91 corresponding amount of recharge capability must exist.

92
93 **M. Speltz made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 for the purpose of discussing**
94 **possible land acquisition per RSA 91-A:3. G. Harrington seconded.**

95
96 **Roll call vote: Aye, Deb Lievens; Aye, Gene Harrington; Aye, Ben LaBrecque; Aye, Mike Considine; Aye,**
97 **Mike Speltz; Aye, Truda Bloom.**

98
99 **G. Harrington made a motion to go out of Non-Public Session. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was**
100 **approved, 6-0-0.**

101
102 **G. Harrington made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session indefinitely. T. Bloom**
103 **seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.**

104
105 Open Space Task Force- M. Speltz stated that all of the Town boards and commissions have assigned
106 representatives to the OSTF. Only one of the two at-large positions has been filled by a graduate of the
107 Leadership Londonderry course.

108
109 Woodmont design charette- At the September 14 meeting, M. Speltz suggested that the LCC ensure a
110 PowerPoint presentation from this charette is posted on the Town website. Although that has not yet been
111 done, D. Lievens said she has since seen it on the locally operated www.londonderrynh.net. She and T.
112 Dolan offered to contact John Michels and the Town Manager respectively to try to resolve the issue.

113
114 September 14, 2010 minutes - **M. Speltz made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14,**
115 **2010 public session as written. G. Harrington seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.**

116
117 **G. Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was**
118 **approved, 6-0-0.**

119
120 Respectfully submitted,

121
122
123 Jaye Trottier
124 Secretary