

Londonderry Conservation Commission Tuesday, November 10, 2009 Minutes Page 1 of 3

Present: Deb Lievens, Mike Considine, Paul Nickerson, Truda Bloom, Ben LaBrecque and M. Speltz

Call to order; 7:32 P.M.

D. Lievens appointed M. Speltz to vote for Gene Harrington.

2.0

Moose Hill Orchard pond bank stabilization—Andy Mack, Sr., President of Moose Hill Orchards, Inc., was joined by Bill Parker of Parker Garden Design LLC to present a plan to stabilize the pond on map and lot 6-21-4. Although the bank is relatively stable as it exists today, large stones will be taken from the same lot, positioned along the existing shore shelf and then filled in behind with topsoil. Further stabilization will result from the lawn area being reseeded and topped with stabilization fabric for the coming winter. A fence would eventually be placed in between the lawn and the gravel parking area for safety (see attached plan).

B. Parker spoke with Lori Summers of the Department of Environmental Services to ask whether an actual Dredge and Fill permit would be required since the pond/wetland itself would not be disturbed. Her response was none would be needed but suggested the project come before the LCC. M. Speltz noted that landscaping such as this is a permitted use in wetland buffers under the Town ordinance.

- P. Nickerson made a motion that the LCC support the project as presented and agree with the conclusion of DES that a D+F permit is not required for this project. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.
- P. Nickerson inquired as to the timetable of the project. B. Parker replied that they could begin as soon as next week and could then be finished in another two weeks after that.

<u>Mack</u>- The Town was recently awarded grant funding through the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program to be used towards the purchase of a conservation easement on map and lot 10-15. Since owner A. Mack was present for the above discussion, the LCC took the opportunity to review the requisite easement process.

D. Lievens explained that she has emailed Town Counsel to initiate a title search and will seek confirmation of that request. M. Speltz suggested contacting Envirosense to perform the hazardous materials inspection and asked D. Lievens to verify with the Rockingham County Conservation District that they will execute the baseline study. Both need to be done prior to snow cover.

It was explained that it is prudent to manage these matters prior to the federal "self contained appraisal report" as that must be done as close to the closing as possible. Don Spring, who produced the original appraisals, told D. Lievens he was not as familiar with that specific kind of evaluation and as a result, gave an estimate of \$8,500 to complete the work. M. Speltz gave D. Lievens contact information for Scott Dickman of SED Valuation in Concord and suggested asking RCCD for recommendations of appraisers familiar with that specific federal review.

Rather than trying to fit the NRCS easement to the LCC's standards, M. Speltz suggested the reverse would expedite the process at the federal level. The language will ultimately need to be agreed upon by NRCS, A. Mack, RCCD and the LCC.

<u>Falcon Road subdivision</u>- In discussing this subdivision through the Design Review Committee process and the subsequent request for a Conditional Use Permit, the LCC had requested a shed on proposed lot 1-71-22 be removed since it is not an approved use under the Conservation Overlay



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District ordinance. Project engineer Tim Winings explained at the October 13 meeting that the shed actually belongs to the northerly abutter and an easement is in place to allow its existence as long as he does not make any adverse possession claims. Once he no longer owns 1-71-1, the easement dissolves. The LCC had stated they would support a variance request to allow the structure to remain.

 Since that time, the Zoning Officer has provided his interpretation of the ordinance that a variance is not necessary because a preexisting structure would be an allowed use. Unable to coordinate a discussion on the topic before the posting deadline of the ZBA agenda, the request was scheduled and it will be the determination of the Zoning Board as to whether a variance is warranted. M. Speltz noted the conflict between the Planning Board's regulation that a subdivision causes the loss of grandfathering status and Section 2.6.3.6 of the COD ordinance that permits structures and buildable lots which were in existence prior to adoption of said section.

The LCC still expressed concern as to whether the shed would actually be removed after the title passes on lot 71-1 due to the potential for the existing owner to overlook the obligation and the next owner not being made expressly aware of it. After further discussion, M. Speltz made a motion that the LCC take the position that there is no incursion on the Conservation Overlay District buffer on proposed lot 1-71-22 except for the existence of the abutter's shed and that they support the temporary easement that has been granted to delay removal of the shed until the title of the abutting lot passes, but that they recommend to the Zoning Board of Adjustment that should variance request be granted, a condition be imposed that some means be made to ensure the shed is removed in a timely manner. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.

With respect to the existing structures on the southwest corner of parcel 1-71-4, T. Winings verified with the LCC that the wetland involved was not named, meaning the previously discussed 100-foot buffer would not apply. The point is therefore made moot since the structures lie outside the now 50-foot buffer.

<u>Paul lot line adjustment</u>- This proposed lot line adjustment between map and lot 11-89 and 89-1 was also discussed with T. Winings at the October 13 meeting. The same concern arose regarding structures existing in a buffer triggered by a subdivision. It will again be up to the Zoning Board at this point as to whether a variance is necessary, although the LCC agreed that their position has not changed that a subdivision would cause the loss of any grandfather status. The motion approved on October 13 would therefore still stand, i.e. that the LCC would support a variance request to allow the owners "to continue to use the land northwest of the existing tree line as shown on the plan presented" with the condition that "the Zoning Board restrict the portion to be added to map and lot 11-89 to be restricted to natural land cover."

Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund- The LCC was awarded \$20,000 in grant money from the State's Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund to develop a restoration plan for long-term improvements to the wetland on map and lot 6-113. At the October 13 meeting, bids from Gove Environmental and RCCD were reviewed and D. Lievens explained that details of the third quote she received from Vanasse Hangen and Brustlin had not been forthcoming despite several attempts to obtain them.

Since then, D. Lievens has learned that VHB's vetting process for proposals has become more complex which explains their lack of response. The consensus was to forgo that quote. After reviewing the Gove and RCCD bids again (at \$13,000 and \$17,090 respectively), M. Speltz made a motion to contract with Gove Environmental Services to perform the work spelled out in their letter of October 15. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.



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M. Speltz also offered to contact Lori Summer at DES to see if a notice of grant award with conservation restrictions would suffice instead of a more costly easement deed.

Boy Scout trail project D+F- The LCC received a Notification of Trail Development Activities Having Minimum Wetland Impacts from DES regarding a path at the intersection of King Charles Drive, King Phillip Drive and the Town own fields on map and lot 9-55A. A Londonderry Boy Scout is making improvements to the crossing there to prevent further wetland impacts.

Musquash/town trails- M. Considine provided a wrap up of the Trails Day that took place in the Musquash Conservation Area on October 31. Three plank bridges were installed over historically wet areas of different trails and a fourth is in place, waiting to be secured. Two spots more significantly impacted by water were rerouted altogether as had been planned. Everything previously cleared on the Overlook has been removed. Finally, the new White Trail including the extension to Faucher Road has been completed. Boy Scout M. Saur has erected his kiosk there and will be installing additional signage shortly. M. Speltz recommended publicizing the new trail and its recreational opportunities. M. Considine said Londonderry Trailways was going to discuss that at their next meeting. D. Lievens thanked M. Considine for his efforts.

<u>Tanager Landing trail</u>- M. Considine provided confirmation that a trail has been established across the Town owned lot on Tanager Landing (5-10-40). It leads over to the power lines and connects with an older trail which eventually leads up into the Musquash.

DRC- Higgins lot line adjustment, 9-85 & 85-1;

Comments: Be sure to note the removal of the culvert per J. Maynard's presentation to the LCC in the minutes of our March 24, 2009 meeting, i.e. "A portion of the existing driveway between the Higgins residence on 9-85-1 and the house on 9-85 will be discontinued and allowed to naturalize so that the new driveway connecting to the Town right of way on Winding Pond Road will not be a thru street to Pillsbury Road" (lines 37-39).

October 13, 2009 minutes-

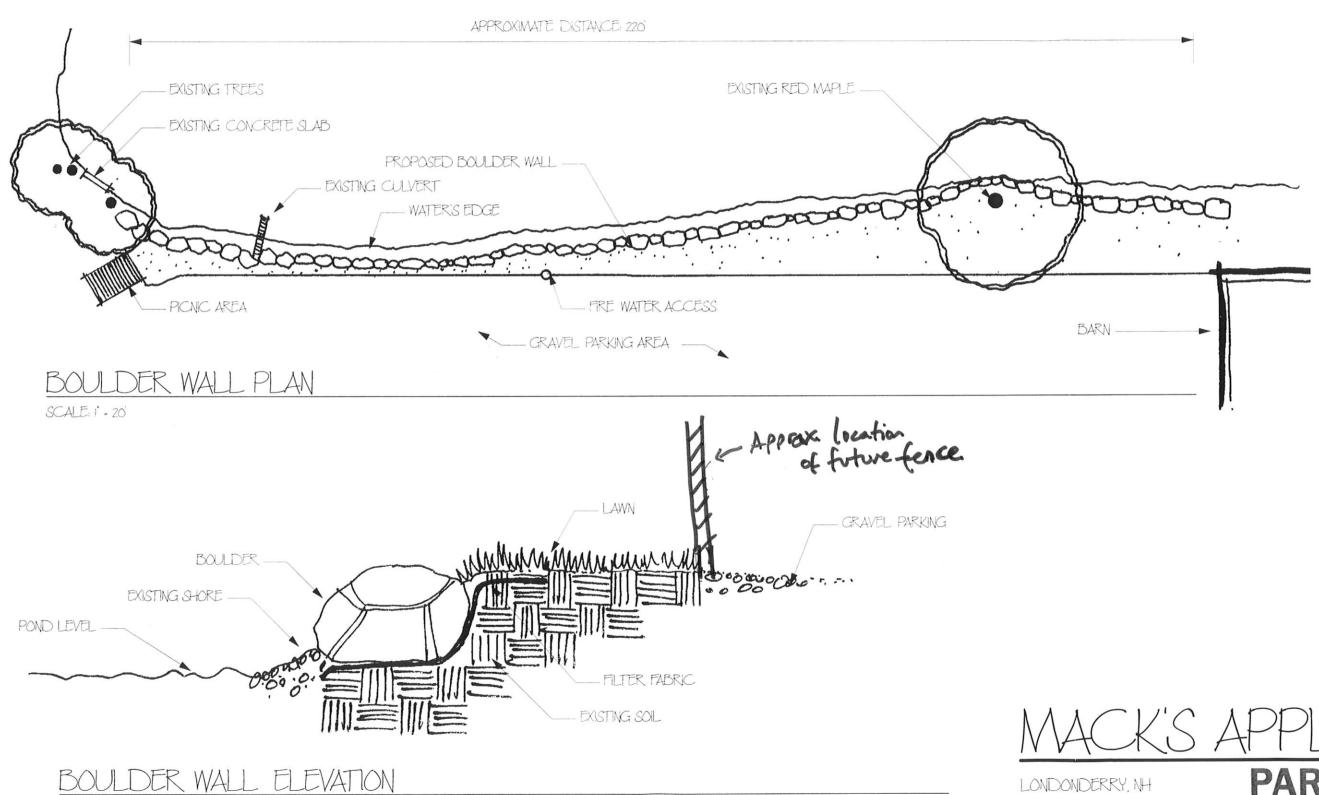
T. Bloom made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2009 public session as written. B. LaBrecque seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-1 with M. Speltz abstaining as he had not attended the meeting.

M. Considine made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

133 Jaye Trottier

¹34 Secretary



SCALE: 1/2' = 1-0'

LONDONDERRY, NH DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2009 PREPARED BY:

