



**Londonderry Conservation Commission**  
**Tuesday, July 10, 2007**  
**Minutes**  
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**Present: Deb Lievens; Mike Speltz; Mike Considine; Paul Nickerson and Truda Bloom**

Call to order

Beaver Brook Estates- Jim Gove of Gove Environmental presented an amendment to a Dredge and Fill application previously approved by the State Department of Environmental Services in 2003. At that time, the LCC had recommended approval of the D+F request for a crossing at Watts Brook to this proposed 14 lot subdivision, citing that the plan for a bridge was an improvement over the original plan for a culvert. That particular bridge, however, was never fully designed, nor did the initial version comply with the criteria of the Department of Transportation's criteria. When the current owner, Mark Cooper, bought the property, he had a new bridge designed in order to fulfill these requirements and proceed with the subdivision approval. Once this was done and a proper hydrology analysis was completed, DES informed M. Cooper that only an amendment to the originally approved D+F would be necessary.

Crossing Watts Brook at that area's narrowest point with an open bottom, the inside span of the bridge would measure 28 feet, while the inside height would be 10 feet above the brook's high water mark. Wing walls on either end will result in wetland impacts, although they are shorter in this design than the original bridge. To prevent structural deterioration along the brook's edge, stone rip rap will be added and will increase permanent wetland impacts from roughly 1,000 square feet to over 6,210 sf. Temporary impacts, however, will be reduced from nearly 3,000 sf previously to approximately 2,100 sf.\* M. Considine pointed out that this development will block what is currently an access point for ATV users to get to the Musquash Conservation Area.

Following some discussion of potential wetland buffer impacts, it was suggested that J. Gove file for a Conditional Use Permit with the Planning Department to request disturbing the 100 foot buffer with the road. M. Speltz also questioned the effect the brook's natural redirection would have on the bridge project. It was decided that the entire issue could be revisited once the Department of Fish and Game's authority on rivers, John McGee, provides his input.

Following this discussion, the owner expressed a willingness to sell the property to the Town. M. Speltz explained that while the Town could only offer what the land is appraised for, they would certainly be interested in entertaining the possibility, particularly because of the location. M. Cooper said he would reply after consulting with his accountant.

(\* J. Gove's verbal presentation totaled all wetland impacts at roughly 7,500 sf, 6,210 sf of which would be permanent, leaving 1,290 sf of temporary impact. The plan he presented however, showed a second area of temporary impact of 819 sf, bringing the temporary impact up to 2,100 sf).

June 12, 2007 minutes- **M. Speltz made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2007 public session as written. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved 5-0-0.**

Letterboxing- At the June 12, 2007 meeting, the LCC had voted 7-0-0 to “**give permission for letterboxing in the Musquash with the stipulation that all wet areas and cellar holes be avoided.**” M. Speltz questioned whether that motion had included the request that the LCC be provided with a list of letterbox locations. While it had been discussed, it was never part of the formal motion. **M. Speltz therefore made an additional motion that as a condition of**



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**approval for letterboxing in the Musquash, the installer of the letterboxes will provide the LCC with a list of locations for their review. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.**

Housing Task Force- D. Lievens announced that she will be unable to attend the July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Housing Task Force and asked M. Speltz if he could go. Even if he is unable to, she noted that LCC alternate George Herrmann will already be attending on behalf of the School Administration.

July 24, 2007 meeting- D. Lievens will not be attending the next scheduled meeting and has asked Vice Chair Gene Harrington to act as Chair in her place. If he is unable to make the meeting, she advised M. Speltz that he may have to Chair the meeting.

Purple loosestrife- Efforts have been ongoing over the last few years to remove this invasive species from the wetland in the flax field on Pillsbury Road. D. Lievens reported that despite advertising in the Londonderry Times, among other places, volunteers have not been forthcoming this year. Nevertheless, designated days are July 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. She will also properly mark rare orchids that have been found in that wetland to ensure they are not disturbed.

Member status- Alternate Stephen Fassi has informed D. Lievens that due to work, he will be unable to attend LCC meetings through the summer. D. Lievens recommended that come fall, he could reassess his availability and proceed from there.

Manchester Airport Access Road- D. Lievens made available to LCC members a plan set regarding the Manchester Airport Access Road and NH Route 3A roadway and bridge construction.

Exit 4A- A Standard D+F application was submitted to the Town regarding the I-93 Exit 4A interchange study which applies to both Londonderry and Derry. After discussing the State's considerations for possible mitigation for the 3.36 acres in question, it was decided that the LCC should meet with both the applicant and the Conservation Commission in Derry to review the request. Since a response is due within 20 days of the submission of the application, D. Lievens will write a letter of intervention requesting a meeting and will contact the Derry Conservation Commission Chair personally.

Stonyfield Farm- Map and lot 14-44-30, located directly north of Stonyfield Farm's site on Burton Road, was being held by the State as possible mitigation acreage for the I-93 expansion. D. Lievens reported that the State has now determined it will no longer require it for mitigation purposes and is willing to sell it to Stonyfield who needs it to complete a drainage project. There had previously been some question as to whether the area was habitat for cottontail rabbit but this is no longer a concern.

DRC's (3)-

1. Clark Farms Industrial Center, Phase IIA, lot line adjustment/3 lot subdivision, 15-103 &



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15-103-1

No comments until building planned

2. O'Brien subdivision, 11-53

No comments

3. Uni-Cast site plan expansion, 28-21-1

No comments

CIP form- M. Speltz had forwarded a draft of the LCC's annual Capital Improvement Plan requests and comments to the rest of the Commission. As he explained, there are far more opportunities for conservation in town than there are reserves in the Open Space fund. On top of this, the \$1 million bond request failed at this year's Town Meeting. While he had considered submitting for \$2 million for the coming year, he also agreed with other members that in view of the declining number of votes for Open Space over the last two years, it would be more prudent to continue to ask for \$1 million each year for the term of the Open Space Plan.

While discussing the need for increased public support for the next bond, it was noted that although voter support has declined, it is not because of a growing opposition to the Open Space Plan. Instead, it is a result of overall decreasing voter turnout while the number of opposing votes has remained more constant.

**P. Nickerson made a motion to approve the CIP form as submitted for consideration by the CIP Committee. M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.**

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

**Roll call vote: Aye, Mike Speltz; Aye, Paul Nickerson; Aye, Mike Considine; Aye; Truda Bloom; Aye, Deb Lievens**

**M. Speltz made a motion to go out of Non Public Session. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.**

**M. Speltz made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session indefinitely. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.**

After discussing a possible land acquisition in the aforementioned non public session, D. Lievens also briefly provided information regarding a completely separate property about which she has recused herself from actually discussing with the LCC. Because of this, the LCC chose to document that during the non public session, there was only a one-way communication from D. Lievens, solely in an informational capacity, to the LCC members, without reaction or discussion by the members. In order for the remaining members to have a discussion, D. Lievens appointed M. Speltz to act as Chair and then left the meeting, not to return.

**Acting Chair M. Speltz entertained a motion to go into a second Non Public Session for the purpose of discussing possible land acquisition per RSA 91-A:3. P. Nickerson so moved. M. Considine seconded.**



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**Roll call vote: Aye, Mike Considine; Aye; Truda Bloom; Aye, Mike Speltz; Aye, Paul Nickerson**

**P. Nickerson made a motion to go out of Non Public Session. M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-0.**

**P. Nickerson made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session indefinitely. M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-0.**

**M. Considine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jaye Trottier  
Secretary