



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, July 11, 2006
Minutes
Page 1 of 4

Present: Deb Lievens, Gene Harrington, Mike Considine, Ken Henault and George Herrmann (late)

Call to order

June 27, 2006 minutes-

G. Harrington noted two typographical errors: On page one, under "Emergency authorizations" the word "were" should be "where" and on page three under "Mr. Steer site," the route number given in the first sentence of the second paragraph should be "102," not "202."

G. Harrington **made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2006 public session as amended. M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved 3-0-1.** (K. Henault abstained as he had not attended the meeting).

Tanager landing changes- As a follow up to the restoration of a box culvert at Tanager Landing that had been mistakenly rip rapped, D. Lievens provided pictures showing that a natural bottom now exists and will provide the intended corridor for wildlife. The same has been accomplished on the Litchfield side of the subdivision, although she was not sure it was as successful as Londonderry's.

Charlie Moreno, Town Forester- C. Moreno came before the LCC to review and update the ongoing assessment and management of the Musquash Conservation Area. The LCC had contracted with C. Moreno in 2001 for a full analysis of the 790-800 acres comprising the Musquash at that time. Forest management objectives were reviewed in May, 2004. He noted that inconsistencies still remain between what his appraisal confirms has been mapped on the ground and what the Town's tax maps show (e.g. the "Kimball piece" and lot 8-10). Since 2001, several pieces have been added, bringing the total acreage up to 950 +/- acres, which will also require mapping, inventory, natural resource assessment and management recommendations.

George Herrmann arrived and was appointed by D. Lievens to vote for the empty seat.

With additional properties added to the north side of the Musquash, it was decided to identify the new pieces on a separate map in order to keep the same scale and more economical size of the original. The two maps will simply be identified as the North and South Musquash Conservation Areas respectively, although the entire 950 acres will still officially be known as the Musquash Conservation Area.

The original contract with the LCC was for approximately \$12,500.00, which included the forest inventory. The Town has been billed \$8,125.00 for the two thirds completed, leaving \$4,375.00 in that budget. C. Moreno presented a new proposal to incorporate the new properties. It includes forest mapping (physical features, natural features, forest types), an overall recommendations map, a scheduling map for work areas/preserve areas, logistics and considerations of management, a full forest inventory and species composition, multiple use planning (recreational, timber/wildlife assessment) and detailed recommendations, area by area, both current and future. The estimated cost for the new proposal is around \$9,000.00. He hopes to have the project completed by the end of 2006, after which, a timber cut



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, July 11, 2006
Minutes
Page 2 of 4

may be done during the winter. He would also like to return in November to discuss access issues with the LCC.

G. Harrington made a motion to authorize the Chair to expend an amount not to exceed \$9,500 from the Conservation Trust Fund for the new Musquash management proposal submitted by C. Moreno. K. Henault seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.

Pillsbury Road sidewalk D+F- Mike Leach from Vollmer Associates presented a conceptual of the State funded sidewalk project which will stretch from the Middle School on Mammoth Road to the intersection of Wilshire Drive on Pillsbury Road. (A portion currently exists in front of Matthew Thornton Elementary school, extending south to the intersection with Pillsbury Road). Aside from the five foot concrete sidewalk, there will be sections that will widen to eight feet and act as a meandering, multi use path along the edge of the roadway. One will be in front of the High School, another between the Presbyterian Church and Moose Hill and a third beginning after Moose Hill, approximately half way to Wilshire Drive. Since bicycles are allowed on the multi use sections but are not permitted on sidewalks under State law, it was suggested that this issue be addressed during design review in order to devise the plan accordingly.

This State funded project will cause seven different wetland impacts totaling 2,800 sf, all of which are adjacent to the roadway in the section between Moose Hill Kindergarten and Wilshire Drive. While the slopes have been minimized by using a 2:1 ratio, grading, curbing and extension of the existing guardrail will be the cause of the intrusion. Silt fencing will be placed along the wetlands during construction.

G. Harrington asked why the treatment swale was place so far into the wetland buffer, especially since the LCC has been actively pursuing a methodology with Town departments whereby drainage structures are kept out of the buffer altogether. D. Lievens provided a copy of what the LCC and Planning Department agreed would be unacceptable and acceptable placement. M. Leach was not familiar with the information and replied that the intention of the swale's position was to prevent the removal of two more apple trees and to minimize the amount of water flowing through the orchard. It was decided that the swale could be moved upslope with the removal of two more apple trees, although M. Leach cautioned that doing so would increase the potential for erosion. G. Harrington replied that the erosion would then be further away from the edge of wet. He also requested that since the position of the outlet prevents the swale from being removed from the buffer entirely, that it at least be pushed to the outer 50 feet. D. Lievens stated that making these changes will enable the Town to set a good example for others faced with a similar situation.

D. Lievens expressed her concern for potential damage being done to the hydrology of the field involved. By mowing the piece annually and repeatedly removing invasive purple loosestrife, she explained that Londonderry now has what is probably its most unique habitat. She added, however, that the habitat is very fragile and questioned whether this proposal was created with that in mind or was done strictly from an engineering standpoint. M. Leach responded by stating that the drainage of the area will not be changed and that it will actually add stormwater treatment where none presently exists. D. Lievens asked whether this is known definitely since the area's balance is so precarious. M. Leach noted that four species of interest have been identified in the area for the New Hampshire Heritage Bureau, two being rare plants and the other two being wood turtles and cotton tail rabbits. D. Lievens added that a third rare plant also exists there.

M. Leach will return August 8th with the Dredge and Fill application.



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, July 11, 2006
Minutes
Page 3 of 4

Miscellaneous- D. Lievens passed out information from “Water Watch” concerning how impervious surface affects the ground water cycle.

Musquash; grants/bollards/gate- D. Lievens made a site visit to the Musquash to determine the best locations on which to place bollards and the new gate. A combination of the gate and some bollards would be best at the Alexander Road entrance. Trailways has \$2,625.00 remaining in their budget, including \$500.00 from the LCC. The gate will cost \$1,550.00 and four bollards installed on a weekday will amount to roughly \$1,000.00. While it will not prevent ATV use in the Musquash altogether, she felt it would at least be a good start and will show that the LCC is serious about restricting access.

M. Considine also suggested having the Public Works Department place Jersey barriers at one particular access point along the AES power lines where bollards would only provide a temporary solution. D. Lievens said she would contact National Grid to see if they have any interest in participating in the effort. The gate is due to be installed July 29th and the issue will be revisited at the August 8th meeting.

ZBA case, High Range Road- The LCC was informed of an upcoming ZBA case to be heard July 19th regarding a request that a garage be built at 53 High Range Road, within the required 15 foot setback to the side property line which directly abuts Sunnycrest Farm. After some discussion, it was felt that it would not be an issue with the easement on the Sunnycrest lot.

DRC-s (2)-

1. Crowning Holding, 15-2

Comments: No landscape plan. No indication of snow storage.

2. Stonyfield Farm, Inc. Phase 1A, 14-44-13

Comments: Plan looks like they plan to remove trees up to silt fence – beyond buffer (sheet 7A of 29). This should be checked into. No cut zone- should be marked. We should be sure CUP for detention basin is approved. Snow storage is adjacent to eastern side of page 8A. That area is landscape as shown on page 12A. The plants will die if the snow is dumped on them.

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

Roll call vote: Aye, Gene Harrington; Aye, George Herrmann; Aye, Mike Considine; Aye, Deb Lievens; Aye, Ken Henault.

G. Harrington made a motion to go out of Non Public Session. G. Herrmann seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, July 11, 2006
Minutes
Page 4 of 4

G. Harrington made a motion to seal the minutes of the Non Public Session indefinitely. G. Herrmann seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.

George property- D. Lievens and M. Speltz attended a recent Planning Board meeting to discuss the one remaining issue involving a property line with National Grid needing to be verified by a boundary line agreement. National Grid and the George family attorneys are working to resolve the matter. The Planning Board is otherwise satisfied with the plan and conditionally approved it.

G. Harrington made a motion to adjourn. M. Considine seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaye Trottier
Secretary