



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, November 28, 2017
Minutes

1 **Present:** Marge Badois, Chair; Gene Harrington, Vice Chair; Deb Lievens, member; Mike Byerly, member;
2 Roger Fillio, member

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4 **Absent:** Bob Maxwell, member; Mike Noone, member; Mike Speltz, alternate member; Julie
5 Christenson-Collins, alternate member; and Ted Combes, Town Council member

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7 **Also present:** Charlie Moreno; Beth Morrison, Recording Secretary

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9 Marge Badois called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

10 **Charlie Moreno - Rabbit Cut:** Charlie Moreno addressed the Commissioners and stated he was here to
11 talk about 3 projects. He stated the first one is the Cooper lot that Heidi Holman and Melissa Doperalski
12 from NH Fish and Game had spoken about a couple weeks ago. He pointed out that he had done a study
13 on the various parcels that were under the Town and Fish and Game partnership, such as the Davis lot
14 and Aviation lot, noting success on the Davis lot. D Lievens asked if it was growth or animals. C Moreno
15 stated animals. He stated that access to the Cooper lot has been solved as M Badois owns the property
16 next door. He stated he is at the stage of gathering costs for clearing for Fish and Game right now. M
17 Byerly asked for C Moreno to explain why these projects are being considered for new people in the
18 audience. C Moreno stated that there is a mammal, the New England cottontail that is on the verge of
19 extinction, and one area they happen to be left is in Londonderry. He stated there is a huge effort from
20 the federal level done to keep these mammals from extinction. He noted that the land they inhabit
21 relies on dense shrub habitat that a person would not want to walk through. He explained that it
22 involves clearing forests and allowing it to grow into very dense shrubs and over the long term to
23 maintain the dense shrubs. M Badois stated that the ideal result would be a contiguous corridor for the
24 cottontail to migrate back and forth without having to cross neighborhoods. C Moreno noted that the
25 power lines in town serve as a connector for the rabbits. He stated that this project was looking to get
26 accomplished at the end of winter, maybe February or March, and when the time comes he will be in to
27 get the permits. He stated the second project is involving the Musquash and presented a map for the
28 Commission to look over while he spoke. He pointed to the map explaining the next section they would
29 like to start clearing, noting that Fish and Game would like it to be this winter, but he does not think he
30 can get contractors in that quickly, and most likely would be summer/fall. He explained that one caveat
31 is they cannot work between mid-April to the end of July, because of the amphibian and reptile season
32 followed by the bat roosting season. He stated that he had a contractor down to look at the site and
33 thinks the landing site will be where he had talked to the Commission earlier about putting in a parking
34 lot. He stated that the access road for this project will eventually have to be redone and hopefully there
35 will be money generated from the project to cover this. He stated that they would like this project to be
36 completed by the end of 2018. He went on to talk about the third project, which is the management
37 plan for the whole property, which he had talked to the Commission about 2 years ago. M Byerly asked



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38 if he wanted to upgrade the management plan on paper or actually do the work on the property. C
39 Moreno stated it would be both, to fully see the big picture. D Lievens pointed out that the Commission
40 does not have access to the lands that C Moreno would like to manage. C Moreno stated that the
41 management plan would study areas, access to areas, invasive species and wildlife management. M
42 Byerly asked if the Musquash trailhead would need to be closed with this project. C Moreno stated it
43 might possibly for a short time period. G Harrington asked if the work was going to be Monday through
44 Friday or include any weekends. C Moreno answered it would be Monday through Friday. M Byerly
45 asked if the Commission notifies abutters about this work. C Moreno stated that he thought Fish and
46 Game notifies abutters.

47 **Old Business**

48 **Procedures:** M Byerly informed the Commissioners that no update had been sent out by email and
49 would do so before the next meeting. M Badois stated that she had two questions about the
50 procedures. She pointed out that in one section it states "regular members shall elect chairperson, vice
51 chairperson and secretary," but the Commission does not have a secretary. She asked if the Commission
52 should vote in a secretary or assign staff as a secretary. D Lievens stated that the chair writes all the
53 letters as of now. G Harrington suggested the chair also be the secretary. M Byerly noted that M Speltz
54 had suggested striking out secretary, as there is no current secretary. R Fillio asked if it was in the RSA
55 for a secretary. M Byerly stated he would check the RSA and report back. M Badois's second question
56 was regarding the fact that the Commission has two accounts, which are the Conservation Fund and the
57 Open Space Fund. She asked if there is a distinct definition for each fund to delineate how the
58 Commission uses these funds. D Lievens stated that the original fund was the Conservation Fund and
59 could be used to buy land, pay Charlie or any expenses. G Harrington noted the Conservation Fund was
60 also were any money from timber cuts should go. He explained that the Open Space Fund was originally
61 set up with the first bond issue to fund land acquisition in 1995 or 1996. He stated that it should not
62 have been set up that way and should have gone into the Conservation Fund, but the petition article did
63 not say that, and it was set up as a separate fund. M Byerly asked if these two funds should be merged.
64 G Harrington stated that they should not be merged, and to leave the Conservation Fund alone and let
65 the Open Space Fund run out. M Badois asked how money gets into the Conservation Fund. G
66 Harrington stated it should be money from timber cuts, donations, and money from the current use
67 change tax. He stated that the town attorney might be able to help the Commission with this. M Badois
68 stated that these funds have the same bank account number. She suggested that the Commission
69 should deposit any monies in the Conservation Fund for now and ask the attorney about the Open
70 Space Fund. The Commissioners agreed.



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71 **Town Council Presentation regarding Kendall Pond:** M Badois stated that she emailed Kirby to confirm
72 that the Commission is on the agenda for the December 4, 2017, Town Council meeting. She stated that
73 she has 12 names of abutters to send letters out notifying them of the meeting.

74 **Trail Maintenance:** M Badois stated that Sandy Lagueux emailed her suggesting they get together. She
75 stated that she thinks the Commission needs to get back to square one and start over because there was
76 a misunderstanding on both sides. She stated that she thought there is a good amount of trail
77 maintenance due to blow downs this year. M Byerly noted that Charlie's group did go in after the storm
78 and cleared all the trails. M Badois asked if M Byerly has had communication with Charlie. M Byerly
79 stated that he had and Charlie has been very responsive and active in regard to doing trail maintenance.
80 M Byerly explained that an Eagle Scout contacted him about doing his project that involved putting up
81 the posts with the signs. He stated that the Eagle Scout would be presenting his proposal to the
82 Commission at a later date.

83 **New Business:**

84 **Warrant article:** M Badois informed the Commission that Peter Curro wrote the warrant article again
85 and read them the current version. G Harrington voiced his opinion that the word special needed to be
86 taken out from this version and asked if the money would be raised in this current fiscal year or only as
87 needed. He also asked if the Commission should ask the town attorney to assist P Curro in writing the
88 warrant article. D Lievens stated that in her opinion, she had a bad feeling about the Commission
89 supporting a 5 million dollar bond at this point in time. G Harrington pointed out that there is no
90 mention of bond in the warrant article, and as far as he is concerned would require the Town to raise 5
91 million dollars in this current fiscal year. G Harrington suggested that M Badois look at the Exit 4a bond
92 warrant article from the past. M Byerly stated in his opinion, it was very important for P Curro to
93 understand that if the warrant article is not written as a bond, the Commission does not support it. The
94 Commissioners agreed.

95 **Positions:** M Badois informed the Commission that no one has applied for the positions.

96 **Minutes:** The Commissioners went over the public minutes from November 14, 2017. R Fillio made a
97 motion to accept the minutes as amended. D Lievens seconded the motion. The motion passed, 5-0-0.

98 The Commissioners went over the non-public minutes from November 14, 2017. G Harrington made a
99 motion to accept the minutes as amended. R Fillio seconded the motion. The motion passed, 5-0-0.

100 **December 26, 2017 meeting:** D Lievens asked if a meeting would transpire that evening. M Badois
101 stated that she had emailed Kirby that no meeting would take place, unless there were objections. G
102 Harrington made a motion to authorize the chair and one other person, to be appointed by the chair, to



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103 act on any plans or current matters that should arise before the end of the year. R Fillio seconded the
104 motion. The motion passed, 5-0-0.

105 **Adjournment:** G Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. M Byerly seconded the
106 motion. The motion passed, 5-0-0.

107 Respectfully Submitted,
108 Beth Morrison
109 Recording Secretary