

## Londonderry Conservation Commission Tuesday, December 11, 2012 Minutes

Present: Deb Lievens; Paul Nickerson; Truda Bloom; and Mike Speltz

1 2 3

D. Lievens called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM. She appointed M. Speltz to vote for Gene Harrington.

4 5 6

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

PSNH D+F- Laura Games, a Licensing and Permitting Specialist with Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) was joined by Matt Cardin of Normandeau Environmental Consultants to discuss a Standard Dredge and Fill (D+F) application for wetland impacts associated with a 326 transmission line thermal uprate project (see November 27, 2012 minutes). To comply with National Electric Safety Code requirements, 89,322 square feet of temporary wetland and stream impacts will occur within an existing 18.5 mile 345 kV transmission line right of way stretching from the Scobie Pond substation in Londonderry to the southern border of Hudson. Roughly 70% of that temporary impact (60,700 sf) will take place in Londonderry. Permanent impacts will total 40 sf, 20 of which will occur in Londonderry when replacing a structure in an area approximately 700 feet north of Route 102 at the intersection with Avery Road. Work requiring wetland permits will begin in November since PSNH has permission from the grid operator to take the existing line out of service at that specific time. PSNH will also observe any direction from the Department of Environmental Services (DES) to further restrict work within wetland areas to colder weather. Since DES entertains recommendations from the Commission, M. Speltz suggested requesting that the D+F permit include a restriction on any work that could impact wildlife (particularly for the Blanding's Turtles) and plant habitat to non-breeding and non-growing seasons respectively. M. Cardin reviewed the various methods that will be used to avoid impacting vegetation and wildlife, e.g.:

2324

• Using special matting on frozen ground;

2425

 Including knowledge of State threatened and endangered species in the plan (no Federally listed species were found);

2627

Developing management plans with the State Natural Heritage Bureau;
 Avoiding sensitive areas wherever possible;

28

Working outside seeding seasons;

Using construction and silt fencing;

29 30

Including wetland and stream resource mapping on plans;

31

Performing sweeps of areas for such wildlife as Blanding's Turtles

323334

35

36

37

38

39

40

Normandeau will also perform construction monitoring. M. Speltz confirmed with M. Cardin that a report is forwarded to the Natural Heritage Bureau to ensure that any sensitive areas discovered that are not currently in their database will be added to their records. The PSNH right of way will be monitored in July, 2013 and its condition documented by Normandeau in a formal report to DES.

M. Speltz made a motion to authorize the Chair to send a letter to the DES Wetlands Bureau recommending approval of the D+F with the condition that the permit reflect that no work affecting sensitive areas will begin earlier than November. P. Nickerson seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-0.



## Londonderry Conservation Commission Tuesday, December 11, 2012 Minutes

<u>New England Cottontail</u>- A public outreach campaign is now underway regarding the logging to take place soon in the Musquash for the creation of habitat for the endangered NE Cottontail. Emma Carcagno of New Hampshire Fish and Game (F&G) and D. Lievens recorded an informational show on the subject at the Cable Access Center on December 3 (see next item as well).

Musquash Field Day- D. Lievens stated that Emma Carcagno of New Hampshire Fish and Game (F&G) will attend this annual event scheduled for February 16, 2013.

<u>Monitoring</u>- T. Bloom reported that the monitoring of the Moose Hill Orchard easements was to take place this week but has had to be rescheduled to the week of December 17. She continues to coordinate the monitoring of all Town held conservation easements.

<u>Joint Negotiating Committee</u>- Paul Nickerson and Mike Speltz will attend the first meeting of the Joint Negotiating Committee which is tentatively scheduled for December 17. Two separate potential acquisitions will be discussed. M. Speltz suggested notifying the landowners of the date once it is finalized.

November 27, 2012 minutes- P. Nickerson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2012 public session as written. M. Speltz seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-1 with T. Bloom abstaining as she had not attended the meeting.

<u>Outdoor Recreation Guide</u>- M. Speltz stated he has received helpful input on the Outdoor Recreation Guide Request for Proposals from the Londonderry Youth Soccer Association (LYSA) as well as Recreation Director Art Psaledas. None of the comments, however, would necessitate amending the draft. He will continue to seek comments, questions, etc. from the School Department. The original deadline for proposals was to be at the end of December, but since the draft will also need final approval from the Town Finance Director and/or the Town Attorney, that deadline will most likely be changed to the end of January.

P. Nickerson made motion to adjourn the meeting. T. Bloom seconded. The motion was approved, 4-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

79 Jaye Trottier

80 Secretary