



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes - Approved
Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Call to order – Mike Gelcius called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Gelcius, Rob Prohl, Dode Gladders, Sue Andrews, Michael Kennedy, Bob Hutter, Mark Vernon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Brown

OTHERS PRESENT: Peg Birch

Permit applications updates – Mike Gelcius

- 3 applications fixing/additions of docks
- Herrick Cove lighthouse cribbing repair
- 7 sewage disposal permits

Conservation Land Projects

- Parcel 088-006 still in process

Projects

- Invasive species – Mike Kennedy – 2 years ago had a well-attended seminar. He will revise his invasive species information letter.
- Bittersweet on the Cross property, Bob Lyon was to contact the landowners.

Philbrook/Cricenti Bog Walkway – Sue, Bob Brown and Mike G. met and discussed the next steps to be taken. 247 letters are being sent out to people at Hilltop, Fenwood, Highland Ridge and Great Pines (areas that abut the bog) requesting donations. This will be the last push for public donations. (Thank you, Sue, for stuffing and sealing all of the letters!) Bob Brown has a plan on how to go forward and the plan will be discussed and voted on at the next NLCC meeting.

- Mike Kennedy is following up with Fields Pond foundation.
- The deadline for ordering the next section of the walkway is January 2023, and the cost of aluminum has not gone up.
- Mark Vernon stated that two sections of aluminum walkway are being installed 11/17/2022.

Easement monitoring – Sue Andrews

- Sue stated that she is getting some reports in. She will be working on that this month.

Trails – Mark Vernon

- The outstanding project list is getting smaller.
- An order for pressure treated will be delivered on 11/22 to Bob Browns shop, and help will be needed to stick/stack it.
- Low Plain 200 Shaker St. driveway, DPW will help with working on the entrance. Is a driveway permit needed?
- Low Plain (Andover Road) parking area/entrance is being worked on. Mike G. stated that signs and new trail markers for Chestnut Loop and Davis Path are in. Mike G. is also updating the handout.
- Clark Lookout – a rope fence was put in for the boundary lines. People have been building cairns, taking rocks from the old stone walls. Mike G. suggested that in the spring we ask the PD to put their cameras back in place. Mike G. would also like to do a spring clean up of all the teepees and underbrush as it is a fire hazard.
- Lyon Brook Trail – Mark stated that it had a homeless camp, mostly on hospital land, but it is gone now.
- Messer Pond/Clark Pond blockage – Sue stated that she recently monitored that area and that the water seems to be flowing OK. Mark asked what the CCs role is as far as removing blockages?
- Clark Pond – Mark and Peg Birch are working on the plant ID system in that area. Bob Hutter stated that he and his wife hiked that area and were very impressed with the ID system.
- Webb Forest brochure needs to be updated, Mark will be contacting the Webb's and working on that.
- Mark asked Mike G. where we were at with the photo ready maps at the trailheads? Mike G. stated that it is still on his radar.
- Peg Birch expressed her appreciation to the CC for the new bridges, the parking at Shepard's Spring trailhead and the signs at all the properties are wonderful.
- Mark V. stated that his KCC trail tour was attended by 9 people.

New/Old Business

- Peg Birch stated that the plants she planted at the pollinator site may not have taken as it was a hot summer. We will have to wait to see what blooms in the spring. Peg stated that the wheelbarrow from Low Plains has disappeared and another is needed. Mike G. is going to keep his eyes open at the stump dump. Also, if anyone has leftover election signs they can be recycled for plant ID signs.
- Mike G. is going to send a thank you letter to the BOS thanking Bob Harrington and the DPW for all their hard work that they do for the CC. It was also mentioned that perhaps a couple boxes of donuts and coffee would show the DPW the CC appreciates all they do.

Budget Update/Meeting

- There is a budget meeting tonight (11/16) Sue Andrews is planning on attending.

Motion made by Dode Gladders to accept the October 2022 meeting minutes, with a few minor changes. **Second** by Mike Kennedy **Unanimously approved.**

Motion made by Rob Prohl to adjourn the meeting. **Second** by Mark Vernon

Unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM

Next meeting Wednesday, December 21, 2022, at 8:30 AM in the Syd Crook room

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jackman
Town of New London