



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

8:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Brown (chair), Michael Gelcius, Ruth White, Michael Kennedy, Rob Prohl, Dode Gladders, Mark Vernon,

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: Ken Kessler, Peg Birch

Call to order – Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. (Meeting is being recorded and held at Whipple Hall)

- **Permit applications updates – Mike Gelcius** – very light month, 6 individual sewage permits
- **IT WAS MOVED (Rob Prohl) AND SECONDED (Michael Kennedy) to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2021 meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- **Conservation Land Projects:**
 - a. ECWMA, restated CE, documents are now all signed and registered. Low Plains is now 200 acres.
 - b. New 23-acre property is waiting for wording of deed to be fixed.
 - c. American Chestnut – 13 more trees were planted at the landing area of low plains. Chair Brown would like to send thank you notes out to the volunteers that have helped. Mark Vernon will get names to Bob.
 - d. Conservation Land project – 12.68% is considered conservation. 79 properties are on the list. Mike Gelcius will compile a document and share with the CC, Kim Hallquist and Janet Kidder.
- **Community Forum** – focus was basically on the police department. Only one vote was for CC. Mark Vernon stated that the master plan survey results showed strong support for land conservation.
- **Arbor Day** – Chair Brown received from Kim Hallquist information from TD Bank Green Space Grants. Discussion followed and it was decided that the CC is not interested in this program.
- **Trails** – Mark Vernon – Ken Kessler
 - they did a band aid on the Clark Pond Bridge, it is 6' wide, OK to walk in the center, one end is rotten but Ken did repair some of it.
 - The Bog is ongoing.

- CC working on refreshing signs.
- Kidder-Cleveland property work in progress.
- Discussion on the slippery board walks, should signs be put up? Mark too look at other sites to see what they do.
- **Invasive Program** – looking at lot behind TDS, Mike G. to contact TDS corporate. Michael Kennedy stated that we need to inform the town before proceeding.
- **Fireworks** – Rob Prohl has been communicating with John Wilson (PLPA) they are concerned with noise and lake pollution. Mr. Wilson is contacting fireworks companies about chemicals.
- **Easement Monitoring** – there are 12 properties, Mark Vernon does ½ and others do the other ½. Michael Kennedy does the 3 Sargent's, Rob Prohl does Fenwood and Evergreen, Mike Gelcius does Cordingly, Dode offered to help with any of it. Easement practices best practices include:
 - a. All boundaries located and flagged
 - b. Review of easement legal documents
 - c. Contact land owners and work with them
 - d. Use standard report template
- **New/Old Business**
 - Mike Gelcius received an email from Middle school teacher Tara Evans looking to get students involved in snowshoeing on Knights Hill. Mike suggested to do a duck box walk as well.
 - Community service person has not shown up, Mark to contact the police officer that the person was working with.
 - Mark Vernon asked if the Master Plan committee has contacted the Conservation Commission? Chair Brown replied that not as of today.
 - Mike Gelcius met with Pine Hill Ski Club (Rick Davies) and walk the trails and discussed what work to be done. Mark & Mike G. to meet with Rick on November 18th.

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Mark Vernon) to allow Pine Hill Ski Club to use the property. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Rob Prohl) to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jackman
Town of New London