



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

8:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Brown (Chair), Michael Gelcius, Mark Vernon, Andrew Deegan, Maggie Ford, Michael Kennedy, Ruth White,

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Stanley Morano, Joseph Kubit

STAFF PRESENT: Nicole Gage, Zoning Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: Pierre Beddard, Ruth & Lindsay Collins, Matt Stasalovich

1. **Call to order** - Chair Brown called the roll. He also noted that Ruth White is now officially a voting member.
2. **Public comment** - None
3. **Trail Patch Program** - Ruth & Lindsay Collins attended the meeting to receive their trail patches. Ruth White encouraged the Collins' to hike the trails in the winter as well. Ms. Collins noted that it was a picture in the *Intertown Record* that encouraged them to complete this goal and their favorite trail was the Dura Crockett trail.

4. Permit Application

Peter & Margaret Sulick at 373 Lakeshore Drive (repair to lake front wall (PBN - expedited) Pierre Beddard attended the meeting. This is a granite wall that has shifted and loosened. This is a year that the lake is being drawn down so the Sulick's want to take advantage of this opportunity to repair it. With the repair they will tilt the wall back so it will be stable for a longer period of time and will use the same materials.

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Ruth White) to sign the expedited request as presented. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

214 SooNipiParkRd-Subdivision Application Accepted-10-26-201853 Lighthouse View Rd. (126-005-000) - Michael Gelcius stated that there has been a request for subdivision and DES has approved this request. This will go before the Planning Board on November 27, 2018. There are concerns about storm water management, runoff and development.

813 Little Sunapee Road - Nicole Gage reported that Tod Schweitzer was denied a variance request by the Zoning Board last week for a small shed. The shed had already been installed this past summer and was close to the water. He had also

built an outdoor shower and platform attached to the house. The outdoor shower is being modified so it is acceptable. The shed will need to be removed.

112 Herrick Cove - A shoreland permit application notice was received for a teardown and rebuild within the 50 foot water front buffer.

125 Tracey Road - A wetlands permit for construction of a gravel driveway was received. Matt Stasalovich attended the meeting on behalf of Daniel Grace and Peter Messer. This is a repair of an existing driveway. They would like to gain access to buildings in the back of the property. The Planning Board has already approved the subdivision that was brought before them and this is for the access road to those parcels. The existing access road is being brought up to code and equalizer pipes are being added.

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Maggie Ford) to approve the request as presented. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 Wallula Road - Shoreland permit encroachment of a garage. This is straightforward with no concerns.

11 sewage disposal approvals

Ms. Gage noted there is a morning meeting in Hopkinton and an afternoon meeting in Peterborough on December 12, 2018 in regards to FEMA which has funded new field surveys and preliminary maps for flood plains. These meetings are specific to the Contoocook and Pemigewasset watershed.

Ms. Gage confirmed she did receive the letter about concerns regarding Murray Pond and the removal of plants.

5. Approval of the October 17, 2018 meeting minutes

IT WAS MOVED (Mark Vernon) AND SECONDED (Michael Gelcius) to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2018 meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. 2019 & 2020 Budget

The 2020 budget has been submitted and several members of the Conservation Commission attended a recent joint Budget Committee/ Board of Selectman meeting. Chair Brown is concerned that there wasn't a quorum of Budget Committee members at the meeting to hear their presentation. At that meeting they discussed the budget and two warrant articles. They did indicate that the 50/50 split of forestry income seemed reasonable. They don't seem to be supportive of a contribution to the land acquisition fund.

Chair Brown noted the original request for a contribution to the land acquisition fund was \$50,000. He would like to discuss whether they should ask for a lesser amount. He let the budget committee/BOS members know he would like to avoid a petitioned article if possible.

Maggie Ford feels advertising and marketing should be done so the public is aware and understands all the things that the Conservation Commission does. Chair Brown stated the Messenger and Municipal Matters are good resources for this.

Mark Vernon asked if there was money in the budget to accommodate mapping costs. Chair Brown asked what the amount would be and Mr. Vernon estimates about \$2,000. This will be discussed further as 2/3 of the 2019 budget has already been spent in the first five months.

7. NLCC - Organization support

Chair Brown discussed support given to various organizations and feels we should have guidelines to govern this. Chair Brown suggested instituting a policy to not exceed \$100 for a donation based on certain criteria without discussion.

IT WAS MOVED (Mike Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Andy Deegan) to put a cap of \$100 on donations. Anything more than this will be discussed and agreed upon based on the budget and guidelines. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. NHACC Meeting - Nov. 3, 2108

Mark Vernon, Maggie Ford, Chair Brown and Michael Gelcius attended this meeting in Pembroke. There were many workshops on various topics. Mr. Gelcius felt the workshops he attended were well done and instructors were knowledgeable. He did feel it would have been helpful to have forum type workshops to exchange ideas.

Chair Brown stated that classes were supposed to be limited but that didn't happen so it felt disorganized and crowded.

Maggie Ford stated the workshops she attended were worthwhile.

9. Trails & Projects

Forest Harvest project - Low Plain South, Sheppard Pit & other parcels on Wilmot town line

Chair Brown stated that the forestry harvest on the first parcel on the Wilmot line is almost done. This is the first cut to length project and it definitely leaves more debris. The project has now moved up to Sheppard Pit. They will take Pine but will leave some of the healthy oak so it will grow better.

Chair Brown would like to look at other areas where we might want to do forest harvests.

Trail Library

Mark Vernon stated he is disappointed with the book selection at the library kiosk at Clark Lookout. He is concerned people are getting rid of books they don't want. Ruth White replied that she had been taking out books and replacing them with children's books but hasn't been up there in a few months. She agrees that it should be monitored. She would like it to be more nature oriented.

Michael Gelcius stated we shouldn't be opposed to having books for adults as well. He feels it should be a mixed bag as we want to encourage people of all ages to use it.

Mr. Vernon also noted there is now a “no dogs allowed” sign at the Bog.

10. Important Dates

- January 2, 2019 - Final budget meeting
- February 1, 2019 - Deadline for Warrant Articles
- March 13, 2019 - Town Meeting

12. Next meeting date - Wednesday, December 19, 2018

13. Motion to Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:18am

Respectfully submitted,

Trina Dawson
Recording Secretary
Town of New London