



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES February 3, 2022 5:30 PM

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jackie Christensen

Justin Garzia

Scott Fitzgerald

Tara Stone

Greg Parthum

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Putnam Kidder, New London Recreation Director

Robert Brown and Mark Vernon, Conservation Commission, left after presentation

Janet Kidder, Town Selectmen, left after CC presentation

Presentation by Conservation Commission regarding Cricenti Quaking Bog proposed project. Put in aluminum walkways. They would like to utilize Mary Hadad Fund to fund project. Presenting to us to get our support in order to access funds. This proposed update will provide a safer and longer lasting walkway through the bog. The current wooden plank system is needing replacement. There have been problems with visitors slipping on the boards when they are wet. The new set up should last longer, be safer, and enable people to better access the trails. The cost of the proposed update is 50 K give or take. The MH fund is at 600 K, with 245 K committed to a real estate purchase. There is the option of private fund raising for future updates of the walkways. This first portion would be just the start of the trail. The Conservation Comm. Feels strongly about this project as being a very good use of the MH fund, to help with trails and access to recreation. Janet K. spoke briefly about the MH fund and some background about her as a person. Janet feels that this is a good use of this \$. The benefits of this update were discussed as increasing access and safety to the area. Conservation Commission has proposed a sum of not more than \$50,000 for the project from the MH fund. Question was asked about possible warranty on the walkways? Question was brought up about when this project would be started. The need to act quickly to put down deposit \$ to acquire aluminum because it is scarce due to supply chain issues.

**IT WAS MOVED by Greg Parthum AND SECONDED Justin Garzia to accept proposal by Conservation Commission. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Tara Stone and Scott Fitzgerald were welcomed as new Commission members**

**\*New mission statement was presented and reviewed. Updating goals to reflect and support current goals of Commission and Rec. Dept.**

The mission of New London Recreation is to:

- Provide safe and well-maintained recreational spaces, which **encourage healthy lifestyles and appreciation for our beautiful natural surroundings.**
- Promote **community connection** through **cross generational** and inclusive recreation and leisure experiences.
- Offer quality programs and activities in a **cooperative spirit** with community partners.

**IT WAS MOVED by Tara Stone AND SECONDED by Greg Parthum to accept new mission statement. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Rec. Director gave updates on:

\*Winter Carnival 2/4 to 2/6, outdoor events, and fireworks Saturday. It is a scaled down version of past events.

\*Hockey on town rink. The foam pucks that have been provided have decreased any safety issues, but it was agreed that this option is not good for the long term. The option of a higher net on the NL Inn side of the rink or monitored hockey nights.

\*With new mission statement option of updating logo and catch phrase was discussed.

\*Moving forward it was discussed looking into collaborations with Colby-Sawyer College and Outing Club to best serve the needs of the community.

**IT WAS MOVED by Scott Fitzgerald AND SECONDED by Tara Stone to adjourn. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 3/3/22 at 5:30 at Whipple Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Putnam Kidder  
Recreation Director  
Town of New London