



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 2, 2017

9:00 AM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Vernon; Dan Allen; Laura Alexander, Vice-Chair; Robert Brown, Chair; Michael Gelcius; Maggie Ford, Alternate; Andrew Deegan; Michael Kennedy

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator; Richard Lee, Public Works Director; Lucy St. John, Zoning & Planning Administrator

Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Brown explained that the meeting was requested by Town Administrator Kim Hallquist for the purpose of the review of the town's Wetlands Permit by Notification for work connected with the Pleasant Lake Dam upgrades. Approval by the Conservation Commission will allow the application to be processed by DES in 10 days instead of 25 days. Ms. Hallquist thanked the Board for agreeing to meet to consider the application.

The Committee reviewed the application and supporting materials as prepared by the town's engineers, Dubois & King.

Chair Brown asked Richard Lee to summarize his thoughts on the application. Mr. Lee noted that the dam is classified by the State as a High Hazard Dam which means it must be able to withstand a 2.5x 100 storm event. A breach analysis done by the town shows that the dam in its current state does not meet those requirements; the plans present by Dubois & King for modification of the dam will allow the dam to meet those requirements. He noted that during construction there should be no need to change the level of the lake and the boat launch will remain open; there may be times when areas are closed temporarily but not for extended periods. The parking lot near the dam will be used by the construction crew and won't be available for public parking.

Ms. Hallquist read aloud comments by Chandler Engel of Dubois & King:

"This project is has very minor impacts to the lake shoreline and stream channel, and no impacts to wetlands, thus it is triggering the lowest tier of wetlands permitting- "Permit by Notification" The shoreline impacts are limited to rearranging existing stone and adding some additional stone on the upstream face of the dam, on the east end, for wave protection. The stream impacts are similar- rearranging stone armoring and adding additional stone to prevent erosion of the bank and channel below the stone wall at the

gatehouse. There is a delineated wetland in the auxiliary spillway channel, but all work on the walls is to be done outside of the spillway, so no impacts are planned there.”

There being no further questions or comments on the application, the Chair asked for a motion.

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (Laura Alexander) AND SECONDED (Michael Gelcius) to approve and sign the wetlands application making it eligible for 10 day processing by the State DES. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

LOW PLAINS LOGGING

Chair Brown gave members an update on the cutting at Low Plains. He explained that the loggers are doing a very careful job, being sensitive to the muddy conditions due to the warm weather. Chair Brown has gotten several compliments from people in the area about how careful the loggers are going in and out of the location, the appropriate signage and the look of the land area and logging road. Chair Brown noted that the conditions have presented challenges that the logger, and Leo Maslin Forrester have been excellent at addressing. The logging operation should be completed within one week.

OTHER

Lucy St. John, Planning and Zoning Administrator, informed the Board that the Selectmen recently approved an Intent to Cut for property at 493 Burpee Hill Road.

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (Laura Alexander) AND SECONDED (Andy Deegan) adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Hallquist
Town Administrator