



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

APPROVED

Call to order – Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Brown (chair) Michael Gelcius, Michael Kennedy, Mark Vernon, Sue Andrews

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dode Gladders, Rob Prohl

Chair Brown stated that Dode Gladders submitted his resignation. That leaves the commission with 6 full members, no alternates. Sue Andrews will need a letter from the BOS appointing her as a full-time member.

OTHERS PRESENT: Don Bartlett

Permit applications updates – Mike Gelcius

- 1 notification of a permit being issued for a sewage system
- Received a complaint about a culvert on Wilder Lane.

Conservation Land Projects

- 088-006 –Chair Brown stated it's been 22 months. The latest update is the company Mr. Cooper agreed that there is a problem with the deed.

Philbrook/Cricenti Bog Walkway

- Three more checks were received
- Matrix updated
- Mike Kennedy sent Rob Prohl his Field Pond information so that Rob could use it to contact other businesses. (Belletates)
- Dode was working on the NH Charitable Foundation request letter, there was a cut off date and we did not get approved. There is someone at the NHCF that was going to help Dode. Mike Gelcius is going to follow up.
- Mark sent a letter to Claremont Savings bank and may reach out to Mascoma Foundation.
- Bob Brown may reach out to Market Basket and LaValley Building Supply.
- Bob Brown has spoken to people at Eversource and found out that the work is done by Asplundh, which is a multimillion-dollar company in Shady Grove, PA. The person he spoke to is an arborist and is into exotic wild flowers and would like to donate to the bog project.
- Someone sent a donation and said they would give a larger donation if there could be a bench or plaque with a name on it. Discussion followed, perhaps when the bog project is done, they will do a plaque with all the donors names on it.
- Mark Vernon spoke to Ashlee at the Chamber of Commerce, and she suggested people from the CC attend one of their businesses after hour events. Chair Brown stated that anything like

that is great PR. Mark dropped off flyers at the information booth. Ashlee is going to put a plug in for the bog project the next time she is on WNTK radio. Ashlee suggested we reach out to Rotary.

- Mark spoke to Jim Perkins (Town Archivist) about the bog boundaries and about the Philbrick's. The Philbrick family dates back several generations, he will look into history more.
- Mark and Don Bartlett did a patrol of the bog to see where benches could be placed and where lumber could be dropped off (may require a crane and help from the FD). Don is putting together a list of what is needed. Some PT has been used at the bog.
- Mike Kennedy suggested that we make some improvements/changes to the bog entrance area, maybe remove some trees and underbrush, and open up the area. Mark said he would tag the trees. Maybe move the kiosk.
- Bob Brown has some ideas for a donation lock box, put a metal pole in the ground and have a metal lock box chained to it.
- Mike G. stated that the new sign is almost done.

Easement monitoring

- Mark & Sue were going to walk Low Plains and look for boundary lines, however it was postponed due to rain. F&G has an interest in Low Plains and Low Plains 200. Steve Walker may be a useful resource.

Materials

- Received the Mutt Mitts
- Bob Brown has tools charged and nails ready
- Bob Brown is going to get pricing on a battery powered chain saw, will use CC funds to purchase.
- TACF sent 50-60 seedlings that may or may not work

Trails

- Five ½" American Chestnut signs will be put at Clark Lookout.
- Mark Vernon has been working on the Webb Forest interpretive trail – it is in rough draft and is sending it to Sue and Mike K. for review.

Old/New Business

- Chair Brown is going to look into the logo more, remove lighthouse.
- Mark Vernon attended the Ausbon Sargent quarterly meeting and found out the UNH Cooperative and the county foresters give Big Tree awards to some trees. Mark is looking into nominating two big trees (one in the Webb Forest and one on Pingree Rd.) for an award. He also stated that one representative from each town that Ausborn Sargent works with is there and they go around the table with updates and discussion on different items and on legislative updates.
- Sue Andrews is attending the LSPA watershed project meetings. They have a video that is great, and she may see if it could be viewed at one of the CC meetings. Another project, the LSPA is working on its salt reduction program.
- Chair Brown stated the state wide Conservation Commission meeting is upcoming.

- Mark Vernon stated that some libraries lend out weed puller tools. Mark is going to look into Tracy Library and see if they would be willing to participate.
- Mark Vernon built a bench using the lumber that was donated by the Cook's.
- Mark Vernon said that he has had a new volunteer, Jim Dexter.
- The mini libraries at Clark Look out and Lake Shore have been updated.
- 603 Challenge – received \$100.

Motion made by Mike Gelcius to accept the March 15, 2023, 2023 meeting minutes (with changes made) Second by Michael Kennedy. **Unanimously approved.**

Motion made by Michael Kennedy to adjourn the meeting. **Second** by Sue Andrews **Unanimously approved.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 AM

Next meeting Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 8:30 AM at Sydney Crook Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jackman
Town of New London