



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

8:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Brown (chair), Michael Gelcius, Ruth White, Michael Kennedy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Kubit, Dode Gladders, Mark Vernon, Rob Prohl

OTHERS PRESENT: Peg Birch – New London resident

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

- **Public comment** – none.
- **Permit applications updates – Mike Gelcius**
 - a) Erin Darrow said she may have more upcoming permits.
 - b) 1513 Little Sunapee Road, DES approved
 - c) 149 Sunset Shores, replace in kind ice cluster
- **Conservation Land Projects:**
 - a) ECWMA – conservation easement is done. Betsy McNaughton would like to come to the Selectman's meeting when the documents are going to be signed.
 - b) Final clean-up of Low Plains landing area, Leo Maslan came in and cut several water bars, the area looks great. He cleaned up another area and made it ready for plantings. Bob Brown is going to contact public works to ask if they can put some mulch down. Of the 25 trees planted it looks like we will net 20. Mike Kennedy stated that the area near the benches need to be cleaned up, Mike Gelcius said he will be working on that.
 - c) Lot 088-006, the town attorney discovered and issue with the deed that needs to be fixed. It is going to require the owner contact their attorney and clear the issue up. The environmental survey has been completed and states no hazardous material on site.
 - d) % Count of Conserved lands – Mike Gelcius reported that he gathered information from Ausborn Sargent web site as well as the Granite website. The numbers he came up with are not 100% accurate.

12.68% in conservation according to Ausborn – 14.83% for entire town. The desired goal is 25% land mass. Bob Brown stated that he is still unclear on the definition of conserved land and that the Board of Selectmen requested this information. Chair Brown mentioned a parcel on Bog Road that was gifted to the town, Mike G. will look into it. Michael Kennedy is curious as to how many citizens of New London are aware of this goal? Should the CC advertise this information? Peg Birch asked if lakes counted as conservation land and Chair Brown said no. Peg Birch recommended that something is advertised in November and then again before town meeting.

- **2023 Budget** - request for \$19,965. Discussion followed.
- **NLPB** – CIP requests a 13 year out prediction. Chair Brown to meet with Adam Ricker.
- Chainsaw training at Primex September 28, 2021. Two people have signed up
- **Trails**
 - a) Lumber was delivered and stacked
 - b) Chair Brown stated that the stairs for the Bog has been completed and needs people power to set it in place as well as spread some blue stone.
 - c) Mike Gelcius looked into having laminated maps to be mounted at the entrance of the Bog. Chair Brown said to order two.
 - d) Ruth White stated that she completed her last Bog tour and that the CC is in dire need of a docent. Ruth will check with the NL Garden club for volunteers.
 - e) Ruth White updated the list of volunteers and is going to be mailing out some hiking patches that were earned.
- **Invasive Program** – need to pick a site. Mike Gelcius is going to contact a land owner on Seamans Road as well as checking with Dode Gladders on how to proceed.
- **New/Old Business:**
 - a) **Messer Pond Protective Association** – Chair Brown stated that they are good at obtaining grants, they recently put in two new expensive culverts. They are moving forward with a study and they are asking the CC to write them a letter stating that we support what they are doing.

A motion was made to write and send a letter stating the Conservation Commission supports what the MPPA is doing. Michael Kennedy will write the letter.

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Ruth White) to send a letter. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY
 - b) **Fireworks** - Chair Brown stated that there have been discussions at the BOS meetings in regards to fireworks and the noise pollution it causes. Nothing was mentioned about the pollution from the fireworks itself going into bodies of water. LSPA and DES have publications with documentation about fireworks.
 - c) **Pine Hill Ski Club** – Mike Gelcius met with Rick Davies and Rick showed Mike a map he created to show CC property and other properties that the ski club uses for their trails. They discussed the crossings, huts, pallets and also the needed bridge. PHSC asked permission to do some maintenance on the trails. The committee said yes.
 - d) **Merrimack County Department of Corrections** – there was a person that needed 20 hours of community service. Mike Gelcius stated that he completed his hours and did a great job. Mike will be sending a letter to the DOC.
 - e)

Review and accept the August 18, 2021 draft meeting minutes. (Some changes were made)

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Ruth White) to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021 meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion to Adjourn.

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Kennedy) AND SECONDED (Ruth White) to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jackman
Town of New London