



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, August 21, 2024 APPROVED

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Brown (Chair) Michael Gelcius (Vice Chair) Jim Dexter, Mark Vernon, Michael Kennedy, Dave Hollinger (alt. asked to vote in Rob Prohl's place)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rob Prohl, Sue Andrews

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Don Bartlett, Don Ostler, Peg Birch, Sean Fleming (new resident)

### **Permits** – Mike Gelcius

- Wetland permit for a new dock on Lake Sunapee (Davis Hill, 068-006-003)
- 4 sewage disposal system permits

### **Trails, projects etc.**

- Trailhead numbering is a work in progress, the Philbrick/Cricenti Bog is numbered. The GPS coordinates are also a work in progress, 8 or 9 locations have been given to Cara Leone at the town office and Mike G. will be adding the GPS coordinates to the CC website.
- Town owned land and CE's – Mark V. and Sue Andrews will be coordinating with Ausbon Sargent. Then the monitoring volunteers will be identifying parcels and contacting the owners.
- Jr. Trail program – Mike G. stated that Putnam Kidder (Recreation director) has the information, and we are waiting for his response. The CC website has the new forms uploaded. Once the logo is done, we can advertise the program.
- Lyon Brook trail bridge was installed on July 26, 2024. Hypertherm sent a work team and it went very well.
- Invasive Low Plain project – Don Bartlett – the CSC interns did a great job. Don and Hannah went back in and cut down more knot weed. Don will be monitoring the site. There will be some training offered from the NH extension services on invasive species. Chair Brown asked that the Town administrator, the BOS and the PW department are all on board with this.
- TACF/VT-NH joint work day is scheduled for 9-14-2024. They submitted a proposal to the CC to work with us as we have been very successful with the seedlings. TACF will be providing 150 metal posts, 500' of wire and wire ties and some mat material for the work to be done on the work day. After the work is done there will be a BBQ at Elkins beach.
- Bog road wetlands & Clark Pond/creek area – Jim Dexter went in wearing waders and at site #1. In April the level at that site was 12"-18" in depth. When he went in there last week the level of the water at that site looked like it was 18-24" even though there was no dam rebuilding at that site. It makes Jim suspect that there has been rebuilding down stream closer to the pond.

- NLCC put in a new gauge at Messer Pond. Water level is way down. Michael Kennedy asked about how we are going to continue managing Messer Pond and what the expectations are. Chair Brown stated that the service provider will be going in to the pond in a few weeks and will update us.
- Clark Pond Natural area sign has been installed. Thank you to Don Bartlett.
- The Messer Pond natural area sign is ready to be installed but the place it is going to be put in needs to be shored up.
- A pool water truck has been seen pumping out of the pond, Chair Brown spoke to them and there is no permit needed.
- Peg Birch spoke about the low plain wild flower project. Thank you Peg for all the work you put into this project.
- Don Bartlett asked if the Kidder Cleveland trail and bridges be added to the list of items to be updated.

#### **088-006- Bob Brown**

- It's been over 3 years of working on acquiring this parcel, Kim Hallquist contacted the town attorney. The two property owners agreed that neither is interested in the others property. A surveyor has an electronic copy of the property, a deed will need to be created and then recorded and then hopefully the CC can close on the property.

#### **Philbrick/Cricenti Bog**

- The aluminum walkway is complete! HCAP has been paid.
- Work needs to be done on the wooden areas, Don B. is working on that and has installed some more railings.
- 9/13/24 Hypertherm work day at the Bog, Conway tree company is delivering 20+ yards of wood chips that will need to be moved to the far part of the bog. And a lumber delivery is scheduled and will also need to be moved to the far part of the bog.
- The map box at the Bog sees a lot of activity; Mike G. puts 10-12 maps in there every few days. It was suggested that a QR code be put on the bulletin board. Mike G. will look into that
- The Piggy bank received \$182. In the past month.
- The financing (Mary Haddad account) has been squared away.
- Mike G. stated that all thank you letters have been sent to anyone that donated to the bog.
- Mike G. will send Michael Kennedy a list of the donors so that thank you letters to the large donors can be sent. Another lumber delivery is scheduled and help will be needed bringing the lumber to the far part of the bog.
- Some discussion was held about access from Fenwood to the Bog. Is it worth looking into cutting a trail? Mike G. is going to look into past communication with the president of Fenwood. It was stated that Ruth White was opposed to this idea.
- Technical assistant grant – Mark V. the plan is to do away with old paper maps and replace with on site interpretive signs. The hope is that the list of signs will be at the next meeting.
- If we get the Mascoma grant it will help with producing the new signs.
- Don Bartlett extended a big thank you to Don Ostler for all of his volunteer help at the Bog.

### **Old/New Business**

- **(new)** Adam Richter (Planning & Zoning) requested the CC have a CIP funding, 10-year plan. Land acquisition does not use CIP. Chair Brown is going to check with Kim Hallquist to see if wetlands management is something CIP can be used for.

**Motion** made by Michael Gelcius to accept the July 17, 2024, meeting minutes as amended. **Second** by Dave Hollinger, unanimously **approved**.

**Motion** made by Michael Gelcius to adjourn the meeting. **Second** by Dave Hollinger. **Unanimously approved**. The meeting was adjourned.

- Next meeting, September 18, 2024 at 8:30 AM at Whipple Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jackman  
Town of New London