

**TOWN OF NEW LONDON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
May 17, 2006
MEETING MINUTES**

PRESENT: Laura Alexander, Dan Allen, Dale Conly, Bob Crane, Emma Crane, Terry Dancy, Vicki Koron, Les Norman, Peter Stanley.

GUESTS: John Wilson, PLPA

Les Norman, Chair, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

1. Minutes of April 19th were approved unanimously.
2. Flood Impact: It is not known yet what damage, if any, occurred to NLCC trails as a result of the recent rain. There was damage on Little Sunapee Road; some work was done on Columbus Ave. Water did go over the Hayes dam in Elkins. It was suggested that the CC adopt policy on setting total flow rate limitations. In addition, zoning on intermittent streams should be considered.
3. Milfoil Grant Applications: The CC reviewed grant applications from the Pleasant Lake Protective Association and the Little Sunapee Protective Association. Additional clarification was sought on the PLPA application because of a discrepancy on requested amount and projected costs. John Wilson was able to provide the clarification. Both applications were unanimously supported by the NLCC. This information will be forwarded to Jessie Levine for further action pending town funding and how many other applications might be received.
4. Invasive Species HB 1426: The intent of the bill is to change the list of invasive species. As written, the following species would be removed from the 1/07 add list: Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), European barberry (*Berberis vulgaris*) and Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*). A motion was made and seconded for the chair to write a letter to the state representatives indicating that the NLCC opposes the bill.
5. Trails Update (D. Allen)
 - It is still not clear who holds the liability on NLCC trails that cross private property when ATVs are used on the properties. It is still being investigated.
 - Dan Allen has a meeting with Doug King and the section engineer.
 - Dan has visited identified places of interest where knotweed continues to be problematic. Dan delineated costs involved in trying to control knotweed growth in these areas. He will be trying another experimental approach as an alternative to spraying Roundup®.
 - Dan is looking for volunteers for the following work: Monday, May 22 8:00am – meet at 89 and 11 underpass on King Hill Road for work on knotweed; and Tuesday, June 13 at 1:00 pm, meet at Cricenti Bog.
 - The bog is in need of new boards for the walkway.
 - A request was made for up to \$250 for work on the Bog and knotweed. Request was unanimously approved.

6. Poop Pouches: It was suggested that bags be put at Low Plain for dog owners to pick up. There was little enthusiasm for this since it would be difficult to control.
7. Other Business: Les Norman reviewed correspondence that had come in since the last meeting and included: Sydney L. Crook dedication invitation, request from town archives for a copy of new trail map, monitoring of Columbus Ave., letter from Sutton Conservation Commission expressing concerns about development and related storm water run off, draft copy of draft site plan regulations from Ken McWilliams, and upcoming workshops sponsored by the New England Wild Flower Society (information available at: <http://www.newfs.org/courses/biodiversity2006.html>) and another eleven week course being offered by the UNH Cooperative Extension program (information available at: <http://extension.unh.edu/Forestry/documents/flyercts.pdf>).
8. Discussion of Zoning Changes: It was suggested that possible zoning changes will be reviewed late summer/early fall. Members of the CC need to think about what changes should be made to continue to preserve and enhance the town's conservation mission and goals. Terry Dancy will make copies of the Springfield regulations to serve as a model for the basis of discussion and recommendations for zoning regulation changes.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

Submitted by:

Linda Hanlon
Recording Secretary