

**TOWN OF NEW LONDON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 19, 2006
Meeting Minutes (final - approved)**

Present: Laura Alexander, Dan Allen, Dale Conly, Emma Crane, Terry Dancy, Vicki Koron, Les Norman, Ruth White.

Guest(s): Beth McGuinn (ASLPT)

Meeting was called to order by Les Norman at 1:00 p.m.

1. Minutes of September 20th meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Cordingley Preserve: Beth McGuinn outlined the proposed Cordingley Preserve Conservation Easement. This is a 13 acre parcel along Soo Nipi Road, which is owned by the ASLPT. The ASPLT Board voted to offer the Town of New London, through its Conservation Commission, a conservation easement on the property. The purpose of the easement would be to protect the quality of King Hill Brook, the scenic quality of Soo Nipi Road, public recreation and wildlife habitat. A trail has been placed, the boundaries have been marked, a fence has been placed around a well on the property, there is a volunteer stocking trail maps (map is also available on the NLCC website) and a student intern will GPS the trail, process data and draft an interpretation of key interpretive locations. There is an excellent variety of trees on the property. It was suggested that tree names be marked. This would be a standard easement. A motion was made to accept the easement as proposed. It was approved unanimously. Les Norman will check with Jessie Levine on the procedural process for advancing the proposal.
3. Bog Road – Messer Pond Proposed Subdivision: Tax map 106, lot 13, a plan for a proposed subdivision by Harry Snow was presented as an FYI. The plan will be reviewed by the Planning Board.
4. Blackwater River: The NL and Wilmot Conservation Commissions had a joint meeting to discuss coordinating conservation efforts for the Black Water River. Ideas discussed included giving it a Federal designation as a wild and scenic river. It has potential as a student project. Committee members were reminded that projects related to the river could have an impact on Pleasant Lake. This was the first effort for multiple towns to work within a watershed boundary rather than a political boundary. The effort could evolve into a Black Water River Watershed Protective Association. This report was presented as informational.
5. Knotweed Project: Dan Allen distributed an interim report on the knotweed project. It is available on the NLCC website. Dan proposed continuing with the project.
6. Trails: Because Dan has been spending so much time on the knotweed project, some of the trail work is not getting done. It was decided to divide up trail projects. Bob Crane will take over building boardwalk at Messer Pond. Dale Conley will assume responsibility for the boardwalk at the Middle School. Dale and Dan will come to the next meeting with proposals for the Middle School boardwalk and floatation mechanisms for the Cricenti Bog.

7. Phillips Preserve: Needs to be cut but could not do this year because of the heavy rains. Will need to be done next year but need input from Peter Stanley.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05

Submitted by Linda Hanlon
Recording Secretary