



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## **DRAFT Minutes of the July 16, 2014 Conservation Commission Meeting**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Brown (Chairman), Mike Gelcius, Ruth White, Dan Allen, Rick Anderson, Mark Vernon**

**MEMBERS EXCUSED: Laura Alexander, Andy Deegan, Rick Anderson**

**MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Dancy**

**OTHERS PRESENT: Lucy St. John (Planning & Zoning Administrator), Jennifer McCourt (McCourt Engineering), Peter Schauer (NH Certified Wetland and Soil Scientist), and John Langill (Cherry Hill Homes)**

Chair Brown opened the meeting at 8:31am and welcomed Mark Vernon as a newly appointed regular Conservation Commission member. Mr. Vernon has been a very active trail worker for many years and would like to continue with that work along with some other duties. Chair Brown explained that there had been a large number of New London residents who responded to the request for volunteers interested in serving on appointed committees.

### Membership

Chair Brown regretted to report that John Clough had resigned from the Conservation Commission due to personal reasons. Both John and Sue Clough have served on the Conservation Commission and have a long history of volunteer work in New London and serving the conservation cause. They were wished the best.

Chair Brown introduced Tom Coverdale who resides in Sunapee and is serving at the Conservation Commission trail worker this season. Mr. Coverdale has a great deal of prior trail experience and is very qualified to monitor and maintain the trails. Mr. Coverdale explained the work that he has performed to date and listed some needed trail projects. He gave a report on his daily routine and how he plans his work.

### Planning & Zoning Administrator's Report – Lucy St. John

Ms. St. John provided a brief overview of the applications to be included on the July 22nd Planning Board agenda including a Subdivision Plan for Tax Map 086-022-000. Ms. St. John also noted that two (2) Intent to Cut forms were submitted to the Town. One was for the Parker property on 74 Little Britton Lane. Another was for the Crowell property on 369 Burnt Hill Road. A Permit by Notification (PBN) for the Pope property at 98 High Pine Lane was also submitted. She then introduced Jennifer McCourt, the engineer for the subdivision project, who would provide an overview of the project and the Wetlands application.

Jennifer McCourt, Engineer from McCourt Engineering, introduced Peter Schauer, NH Certified Wetland and Soil Scientist, and John Langill, Cherry Hill Homes. Jennifer McCourt provided a brief overview of the eight (8) lot subdivision plan proposed for the area of Seamans Road/Hall Farm and Blueberry Lane. She explained that they presented a conceptual plan to the Planning Board in April 2014. The site was poorly logged several years ago, and there is a logging road on the property now. Since April 2014, they have completed a review of the wetlands, soils (for septic) and prepared the plan. She discussed the current drainage in the area, noting she would be going out to the site that day to see what it looked like after the heavy rains of the last couple of days. She discussed the size of a culvert, noting it is larger than NHDES requirements. She noted that during the conceptual plan discussion, the impacts to wildlife were

identified as a concern. She said there are deer, birds, bear and other wildlife in the area, and some of the land is loaded with bramble brushes making it extremely difficult to walk through, even for some animals. She noted that the proposed lots, won't likely impact the wildlife, as the back area of the lots will likely remain undeveloped. She noted that the lots will be larger than the abutting lots on Hall Farm Road. The proposed access for five of the eight lots will be from Hall Farm Road, and the houses will be sited to provide views. They will be submitting a Wetlands application to the State, but won't do this until they present the subdivision application the Planning Board. A copy of the Wetland Application had been provided to the Conservation Commission.

Minutes of June 18, 2014

**IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED to approve the minutes of June 18, 2014, as circulated.  
THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Deegan arrive at 9:30 AM

Projects

Mr. Deegan explained that regarding the Hale project, the owner is currently clearing personal items from the property and an appraisal is scheduled to be completed by late summer. ASLPT will start public relations work and fundraising once they have the appraisal number.

Mr. Gelcius gave a report on mowing at Low Plain, a bench and a beaver pipe problem. He will follow up with these things.

Ms. White said she was in contact with the Department of Public Works to see if the parking lot at \_\_\_\_\_ can be graded and/or pot holes filled.

Mr. Vernon, Mr. Allen and Mr. Coverdale are organizing the Merrimack County Department of Corrections work day on July 18. Chair Brown is to meet the corrections department van that morning and lead them to the work site.

Mr. Allen reported on trails and suggested making the Norman Trail wider to better accommodate hikers in the winter and to keep them off of the ski tracks.

With regards to the trail maps, it was noted that they need the long awaited trail data from Mr. Crane. Mr. Allen said he would follow up.

Other Business

Chair Brown noted there had been a request from a citizen to use the Clark Lookout area for a wedding event in September.

Mr. Deegan discussed the possibility of a New London Energy Policy, as renewable energy investments impact home tax assessment. Mr. Deegan will meet with the Energy Committee and determine the possibility of New London adopting an energy policy at Town Meeting.

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission would be held on August 20, 2014 at 8:30AM

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Heath, Recording Secretary

Town of New London