

**Town of New London  
Conservation Commission**

**Minutes of April 18, 2007**

**APPROVED**

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

Guest(s): Jessie Levine, Town Administrator; Eric Schultz; and David Cook.

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

1. Minutes of the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting were approved unanimously.
  
2. David Wilson Cook Trust Land Transfer (Map-052, Lot-008): David Cook was present to discuss the land transfer to the Town of New London. He handed out materials in reference to the Cook Interpretive Loop Trail, the current Conservation Easement, the Proposed Quitclaim Deed, and a Small Historical Map. Mr. Cook outlined the boundaries of the property; the Loop Trail; and the viewing area, he further explained the view and what you can and cannot see from the area. Mr. Cook also outlined the various tree species and animal life that can be found on the property. Les Norman referenced the last paragraph on page four (4); he questioned the wording of the paragraph. Discussion of the wording and intent followed. Jessie Levine suggested adding a sentence to address the authority when it comes to final decisions regarding the property. Peter Stanley questioned page three (3) section ii of the Conservation Easement. He pointed out that the section does not discuss the thinning of forestry for views. Discussion ensued and the commission concluded that the Conservation Easement and Quitclaim Deed will need to be amended. Mr. Cook cited page five (5) section 4.D of the Conservation Easement and questioned if it would cover the discrepancy. Peter Stanley will approach Beth McGuin about the wording. Mr. Cook advised the commission that two major projects for the future are creating a nice sign at the entrance to the Loop Trail with a corresponding map and GPSing the trails. Jessie Levine asked if the parcel is separate from Mr. Cook's home parcel, in which he replied yes. She informed the commission that all they need to do is hold a public hearing with seven days notice. The NLCC extended a sincere thank you to David & Celeste Cook for this offer.
  
3. Schultz Property (Map-107, Lot-017): Eric Schultz was present by request to discuss his property further. Peter Stanley stated that the commission needs to walk the land, find all of the boundary markers, and have the property appraised to determine the value. More information regarding the walk-through will become available as the ground begins to dry. Les Norman questioned the long term objective for the property in reference to the Board of Selectmen's question. Peter Stanley advised that the property is small and he believes the cost will not be substantial. He also advised that if the commissions' next move were to purchase a house lot on the pond the commission would have to do major fundraising and a partnership would be needed. Terry Dancy asked how the discussion

should be minuted in reference to the Board of Selectmen's intent, minutes, and rebuttal. Discussion followed and the group found no reason to specialize the minutes.

4. Letter from Alicemary Sprickman: Les Norman referenced a letter that Dan Allen had received from Ms. Sprickman regarding global warming and the environment. Jessie Levine stated the New London is planning on starting an Energy Committee. She also said that various citizens had shown interest, including Bob Crane. Terry Dancy said that he would also be interested in serving on this committee.

5. DES Permit for property on Wilder Lane: Peter Stanley and Les Norman presented a plan submitted to the commission for a wetlands permit for a driveway. Peter pointed out that the plan shows the proposed driveway does not cross the brook in the smallest area possible. The commission agreed that a letter needs to be sent to DES in reference to this area. The commission requested that the letter included that the plan did not offer a reason for choosing the area to cross the brook.

6. Master Plan Conservation Maps: Dale Conly discussed the maps that the Planning Board had put together for the Master Plan. The group discussed that the maps are very busy. It was agreed that there will need to be corrections to the various maps. It was also proposed that the board may want to entertain having more maps to make the information clearer to those who will be using the Master Plan. Everyone on the commission will stop in to Peter Stanley's office to review and comment on the maps.

7. New London Hospital Property (Map-072, Lot-016 & 017): The commission was advised that the New London Hospital had changed their plan. In regard to the meeting of March 21, 2007, they have added two separators to collect storm waters and to address the commissions concerns. The rate of runoff should now decrease considerably. They have also decided to use pervious pavement on the lower parking lot to test its durability in the rain, snow, and winter.

8. Trails: Dan Allen had not had a chance to assess any of the trail bridges. He also referenced an email from Eian Prohl advising that he is still interested in helping the commission.

9. Walks: The next walk is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup> with Peter Stanley. Ruth White mentioned that the commission should discuss putting together an article to be published in the local newspapers; weekly or monthly.

10. Natural Resources Inventory (NRI): Ruth White questioned if the commission should produce a NRI. Discussion followed. Ruth White will call area commissions to find out more specifics about NRI's. She will also try to get information on the cost involved, what it takes to complete one, and an example of one.

11. Job Descriptions: The Board of Selectmen asked for a job description for the members of the commission. Les Norman said he would complete this project.

12. Reappointment of Members: A question was raised about the reappointment of members whose terms are up. Les Norman instructed that the Public Hearing scheduled for April 16, 2007, had been postponed until April 30, 2007, and until then the members up for reappointment will not be confirmed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by Kelsie Lee