

**TOWN OF NEW LONDON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
August 16, 2006
Meeting Minutes (final approved)**

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

Guest(s): Jessie Levine, Robert Stewart (RCS Designs), Mr. Voellmann.

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

1. Minutes of July 19th meeting were approved unanimously.
2. RCS Designs Robert Stewart was back to re-visit the previous proposal and discussion of the Voellmann land swap (see April 19th NLCC minutes). Jessie Levine summarized what had transpired at the Board of Selectman's meeting. The Selectman decided that the original proposal for a land swap was not in the best interest of the town and referred Mr. Stewart back to the Conservation Commission for further discussion. Mr. Stewart, on behalf of the Voellmann's, had a new proposal for an easement swap. After much discussion of various alternatives, the NLCC decided the following: 1. the CC was supportive of the location of the proposed Voellmann dock; 2. the CC would seek a letter of written permission to have the CC trail pass over the Voellmann property. It was also stated that the NLCC's preference was to have a permanent easement rather than a letter of permission. The NLCC voted to approve the Voellmann boardwalk and dock as proposed within the 20' setback.
3. Town Culverts/New Road: Jessie Levine presented three DES applications for replacement of culverts that had been washed out or otherwise compromised in recent heavy rains. These included Lampson Lane, Morgan Hill Road and Old Route 11 and Little Lake Sunapee Road.

Jessie also discussed another proposed project to help lessen congestion on Main Street. The town would like to put in a new road behind the Middle School for parents to drop off and pick up. This will require that the new road will cross over (filling not required) existing wetlands behind the school. They are looking to do a 12' wide paved road with 2' shoulders on either side.

4. Messer Pond: Gerald Rogoff recently sent an email to the town administrator expressing his concerns about the recent sale of the Kellner 41 acre lot on Messer Pond to developer Harry Snow. His concerns were forwarded to the NLCC and the NLPB. He had suggestions related to the likely subdivision of the property by Mr. Snow and long term waterfront area protection. Part of the Kellner's sales agreement called for a "declaration of covenants and restrictions" that is intended to permanently protect and preserve a portion of the property bordering Messer Pond. Mr. Rogoff was asking the CC and the PB to establish a requirement for periodic inspections of the waterfront conservation land. Since there is no application before either board, it was determined that it was not the town's or either board's responsibility to enforce deeds and covenants between private parties. If and when

an application is made, there will be opportunity to review development impact on the waterfront.

5. Knotweed Project: Dan thanked Les for helping out on the last work day. Dan summarized the various treatments applied to eradicate the knotweed. These included:
 - a. pulling out with roots – came back; pulled a second time and came back
 - b. bent stocks
 - c. bent stocks after flowering
 - d. applied 40 lbs of lime to a 10 sq ' area
 - e. didn't cut after two cuts because Japanese beetles invaded
 - f. applied black plastic (supplied by DOT) after cutting three times. Dan will remove plastic after growing season to see results.
 - g. Applied 3-4 lbs wood ashes/sq ' – plants are coming through

At this point, Dan is not sure which, if any, treatment will work at eradicating or controlling the knotweed. Round-Up spray is being used by some towns. However, the DOT does not allow injection of Round-Up at this time.

6. Trails:
 - a. The bridge at Great Brook and Dura Crockett was washed away so needs to be put back.
 - b. It was requested to have a map indicating what trails are open and closed.
 - c. Pot holes on Low Plains Road need to be repaired. Les will make a request for the Highway Dept. to do.
 - d. A notice has been received about a meeting to discuss trails near the hospital.
 - e. DES approved trail maintenance on Little Sunapee Trails.
 - f. New Ausbon Sargent Soonipi trail will be added to the next new trail map. It still needs to be blazed.
 - g. Need signage on Pleasant Lake High Trail at Webb Forest intersection. Also need at least two "trail closed" signs. Terry Dancy will do. It was suggested to install a split rail fence across trails that are closed.

7. AOB:
 - a. An invitation was received from the Messer Pond Protective Association for a slide show at the Tracey Library on August 29th.
 - b. It is time to start the budget process. Les will email the 2006 and proposed 2007 operating budget to CC members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05

Submitted by Linda Hanlon
Recording Secretary