

**TOWN OF NEW LONDON  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
August 15, 2007  
Meeting Minutes – (Final Approved)**

Present: Bob Brown, Dale Conly, Bob Crane, Emma Crane, Terry Dancy, Vicki Koron, Les Norman, Peter Stanley, Ruth White.

Guests: none present

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

1. Minutes of July 18th meeting were approved as amended.
2. Matters Arising: Les indicated that budget requests needed to be submitted by September. The following budget items were considered for submission in the 2008 budget:
  - a. The situation on Phillips Preserve was reviewed since there is a carry over from 2005. It has been too wet to work the area. It was suggested that the amount allowed for 2008 be reduced.
  - b. Peter Stanley suggested increasing the line item for surveys to \$10,000 and that Low Plains be surveyed in 2008. Surveying Clark Pond area should be considered for 2009. There was discussion of what properties were surveyed or not surveyed. There are many town held properties that need to be surveyed and this should be planned for over time.
  - c. An additional \$3000 was added for Forestry Management Planning in 2008 for the development of a plan for Low Plains.
  - d. Peter has made some contacts for getting estimates for surveying.
  - e. There was discussion of needing more allocated for Trail Maintenance. Les will discuss with Dan Allen. It probably should be a minimum of \$2000 - \$2500.
  - f. There seems to be enough Trail Maps so none will need to be re-printed in 2008. However, the CC may need to have some Webb Forest Trail maps re-printed. Terry will check on the inventory. \$200 will be included in the 2008 budget for trail maps at trailheads.
  - g. Les will talk to Dan Allen about his parts of the budget and what will be needed for 2008.
  - h. Peter will talk with ASLPT about what should be budgeted for them in 2008.
  - i. Les will finalize a draft of the 2008 budget, circulate to the CC members for additional comment and then send on to Carol Fraley.
3. Seasonal Streams and Setbacks (Peter Stanley, Dale Conly): There was discussion of this topic at the recent Zoning Board meeting and the Zoning Board has charged the NLCC with the task of developing a solution to clarify the regulation. Currently, it is not clear where the end point is in enforcing possible encroachments upon wetlands. The ordinance needs to be

amended to clarify the language related to buffer zones and run off. There is a need for standardization and better guidelines in the interpretation of the ordinance so that everyone is treated the same. The Zoning Board has been in a quandary in trying to meet the regulation but yet be reasonable when reviewing plans that come before them. It was decided to form a subcommittee of the CC to meet and develop appropriate language to clarify the regulation and report back to the September 19<sup>th</sup> CC meeting. The subcommittee will include Peter Stanley, Dale Conly and Terry Dancy. It was noted that there is an immediate need for clarification of the regulation to assist the Zoning Board in their deliberations, however, the larger more philosophical issues related to this topic need to be included in discussions related to the Master Plan.

4. Extended Wetlands: see # 3 above.
5. Trails: There was no report since Dan was unable to attend the meeting.
6. Natural Resource Inventory: Ruth White reported on where the CC was with this project. Peter Stanley will be working on the agricultural piece in September. There was a discussion about the inventory on vernal pools (Vicki Koron) and how to determine where they are. An ad will be placed in the Kearsage Shopper with a description of what a vernal pool is and asking residents to report any that they think are on their property. In addition, it was suggested that similar requests be made in the *Argus* and the *Intertown Record*. The town's Master Planning process will begin in September and there will be monthly meetings to collect the necessary information to develop the Master Plan. The NRI will be a separate document.
7. AOB/Correspondence:
  - a. Ruth reported on the new display of the Cricenti Bog at the Tracy Memorial Library. She said it was excellent. The display is one that was put together by Emma Crane, using photographs Bob had taken, for the NL Garden Club's Flower Show held last June. The display was at The Fells for the month of July, and will be at the Library through mid-September. After that it will go to the state and regional meetings of the Federation of Garden Clubs.
  - b. Earlier this summer, Ruth worked with some students from Antioch College in developing their display piece on the Bog. She was recently contacted by the college to see if the CC wanted to have the display now they are done with it. It was decided that the CC should take the display and have it placed some where in the town offices or meeting room.
  - c. Les received a letter offering help from the Student Conservation Association's (SCA) New Hampshire Conservation Corps (NHCC). They utilize AmeriCorps volunteers in community and conservation service throughout the state of NH. Les will complete the application form inviting them to New London.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30

Submitted by Linda Hanlon  
Recording Secretary