



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

375 MAIN STREET • NEW LONDON, NH 03257 • WWW.NL-NH.COM

Minutes of the August 19, 2015 Conservation Commission Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Brown (Chairman), Laura Alexander (Vice-Chair), Ruth White, Mark Vernon, Mike Gelcius, Andy Deegan

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Dan Allen, Jane McMurrich, Tim Paradis

OTHERS PRESENT: Lucy St. John (Planning & Zoning Administrator), Tom Coverdale (Trail Worker), Owen Krol (Trail and Mapping Intern), David Cook (New London Resident)

Chair Brown opened the meeting at 8:30am.

Membership

Chair Brown intended on welcoming Tim Paradis as a newly appointed Alternate for the CC member, however, Mr. Paradis was unavailable for the meeting.

Chair Brown, the members of the board and guests gave a long round of applause for Terry Dancy, who is ready to retire after serving on the Conservation Commission Board honorably for 23 years. Mr. Dancy contributions have been greatly appreciated and admired.

Mr. Dancy thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to make a quality to life here and will continue to offer a helping hand in the future.

Chair Brown gave the floor to David Cook, who gave a Trail Report of his work on the Pleasant Lake High Trails and a map including the Cook Easement Trails, Pleasant Lake High Trail and Related Trails. Three new bridges have been added (two on the Langenau Brooke Trail and one on the entrance of the Cook Interpretive Trail).

Chair Brown said there is a dilemma in trail mountain support due to the Merrimack County Program being cancelled. He would like to have a list of tasks in order to make plans with the resources at hand. Mr. Gelcius said he will look into other resources to help. Mr. Coverdale said he will go over the 3 1/2 mile trail and clear the over growth.

Mr. Dancy noted that the Barbara Deming property requires immediate attention. The 13 year old Beaver Dam Bridge has collapsed. Andy Deegan confirmed that the bridge needs to be repaired. Mr. Deegan will inform when the bridge can be worked on.

Minutes of July 15, 2015

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED to approve the minutes of July 15, 2015, as circulated. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Ms. St. John gave a brief update. The board continues to look at the zoning amendments and will have copies of the agenda at the next meeting. The tree cutting provision are changing; any ideas to share can be emailed to her and she will forward them. Tim Paradis will be the new liaison for the two boards. And there are no new applications at this time.

At this point, Ms. St John left the meeting.

Easements and Land Acquisitions

Kidder-Cleveland-Clough

Chair Brown had more discussions with Will Kidder and the next step is to meet officially with the Selectmen at the next meeting and ask them for endorsement and support.

Hale Property

Mr. Deegan explained that regarding the property, Mr. Hale said it has been mostly cleanup and organized. Mr. Hale is seeking advice on how to proceed further. Chair Brown suggested organizing more help to remove the remainder. There are concerns about land contaminates. Mr. Deegan suggested a neighborhood fundraiser could help with preserving the land.

Davis Hill Rd

Chair Brown requested a meeting for further discussion on acquisition of the property.

Trail Maps

Chair Brown said that more copies are needed for the Webb Forest and Clark Pond Interpretive Trail's boxes.

Mr. Krol reported that the Phillips maps will be visible next year.

Mr. Coverdale gave a summary of the trails improvements he has worked on this summer. The *Kidder-Cleveland-Clough* is mostly boarded and the trails from Pleasant Street to Spring Ledge have been cleared and are useable. He, also, reported that the flow device is clear, along with no beaver activity. While working on the trails, he helped a few lost hikers find their way.

Lyon Brook /Hospital Trail

Mr. Vernon submitted plans to Eversource for the power line stretch. Chair Brown recommended to gather more resource before further.

~~Wet Land Trail~~ Lyon Brook Trail South

Mr. Vernon said the trails will be worked on in the fall.

Other Business

Mr. Gelcius asked about the Low Plain volunteer benches. Ms. White said they wanted to place a bench as a memorial for Clare Bensley, at the overlook. Mr. Gelcius will contact the Bensleys.

Mr. Vernon suggested putting an ad, possibly with photos, this week promoting upgrades to the Clark Pond and Kidder-Cleveland-Clough trails. Ms. White said she would.

THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission would be held on September 16, 2015 at 8:30am.

IT WAS MOVED (Laura Alexander) AND SECONDED (Mark Vernon) to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Richtmyer, Recording Secretary
Town of New London