



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Conservation Commission MEETING MINUTES May 17, 2017 8:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laura Alexander (Vice-chair), Michael Gelcius, Maggie Ford, Ruth White, Mark Vernon and Tim Paradis.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Brown (Chair)-excused, Michael Kennedy (excused) and Andrew Deegan.

STAFF PRESENT: Lucy St. John, Planning & Zoning Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: Pierre Bedard, Pierre J. Bedard & Assoc.; Peter Winship, Representative for the Healds; and Stanley Morono (interested in serving on Conservation Commission).

Call to Order: Vice-chair Alexander called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

Approval of Minutes

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Maggie Ford) to approve the minutes of April 19, 2017 as circulated. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Wetlands/Shoreland Applications

- **Hopwood, William T. and Jane T. Wetlands Permit Application for Expedited Review Application.** Located at 722 Bunker Road. Tax Map 076-020-000. Project Description: To repair existing stone crib due to deterioration. Work to be performed during lake draw down. Notation on plan states: existing composite decking over stone and concrete crib structure (to be repaired). Plan prepared by Pierre Bedard, NH Wetland Scientist and Surveyor. Town received May 8, 2017.

Pierre Bedard provide a brief explanation of the project. The Board reviewed the photographs submitted with the application.

Motion

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Maggie Ford) to approve the expedited application. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **Jane W. Heald Trust Tree Cutting Application.** Located at 488 Lakeshore Drive. Tax Map 037-012-000 (old #037-01A-000). Proposal to cut eight (8) trees. Property located in several overlay districts including- Shoreland Overlay District, Wetlands Conservation Overlay District, Streams Conservation Overlay District and Floodplain Overlay District. The site is shown on the Town's Streams and Wetland Protection Map 2001 as: 100 foot buffer for Other Significant Wetlands and Protected Streams. Town received May 9, 2017.

Peter Winship presented the application on behalf of the owners, including his detailed drawing showing the existing and proposed points, 50 points needed in each segment. He noted the property is located in

several zoning overlay districts. The trees proposed to be cut are a safety concern to both persons and property as they are dead and diseased. He also discussed the wind patterns, and that last year they had healthy trees comes down.

Ms. St. John explained that she visited the site yesterday, and the Board reviewed the photographs taken. She also explained that this will be included on the Planning Board May 23rd agenda, and per the Ordinance the Conservation Commission to provide a recommendation to the Planning Board, as the site is located in several Overlay Districts.

The Board asked about who the tree contractor may be, and concern for what type of equipment might be used.

Stanley Morono asked if there would be any impact to the streams, and if the stumps would be left. It was explained that stumps would remain.

Motion

IT WAS MOVED (Tim Paradis) AND SECONDED (Maggie Ford) to approve the tree cutting application. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **Hollinger, Scott Wetlands Permit by Notification (PBN) Application.** Located at 824 Lakeshore Drive. Tax Map 051-004-000. Project Description: Install silt fence in front of old wood wall to be removed, remove rotten wooden perch wall, and replace with granite stone. Install filter fabric behind granite and top-dress with 3-4 yards of washed sand. Remove silt fence, take pictures for closeout of job. Re-work rock stairs if needed. Application project types selected include retaining wall repair and replacement and beach replenishment. Plan prepared by Mike Daley, Landscaper. Town received May 9, 2017.

Ms. St. John explained that Mr. Daley was aware of the meeting, and she expected he would be attending. Mr. Daley didn't arrive and thusly Ms. St. John provided a brief review of the application, she noted she had not visited the site.

The Board discussed whether or not to sign the expedited application. After some discussion, they noted that if the applicant had attended, they would consider signing an expedited application, but without being able to address specific questions, they agreed not to sign the expedited request.

Planning Board Update

Mr. Paradis gave an update to the board.

- The Hospital installed a new generator, which is quieter and will not impact hikers on the Hospital trail.
- A Master Plan Subcommittee is being established.
- He will be chairing a Planning Board Subcommittee to look at provisions in the Zoning Ordinance to address alternative energy issues such as wind, solar, etc.

Maps

Mr. Vernon gave a brief update to the vicinity maps and budgeting that was granted.

MCDOC – Work Schedule – is waiting on confirmation.

Trails and Projects

- *Hospital Community Trail* – The signs and the arch bridge are up. There is a work day on Tuesday, May 30th. The Grand Opening is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13th. They discussed whether a free copy of the trail map should be provided to those in attendance. It was asked if the cost of providing the maps would be shared with the sponsor. The Board agreed that it is good idea to provide a free map to those in attendance.
- *Trail Patch Program* – Ruth White asked that the record reflect that Lindsey Ladd and Martha Doyle completed the trails and their patches will be mailed to them since they were unable to attend the meeting today.
- *Trail Worker List* – Mark Vernon reported that they have plenty of volunteers. He also noted that he has been contacted by the School as there are about 30 students that need to complete community service hours. The Board discussed several ideas where students could be involved, such as tree planting, trail cleanup, invasive species and etc. The Board noted that involving student volunteers before the end of the current school year was not possible, but would welcome further discussion for possibility using students next year. The Board noted there may be other organization which may be interested, such as Elkins Fish and Game Club, Recreation Department and others.
- *Low Plain logging trail area* – Mike Gelcius reports that the Elkins Fish and Game planted 270 saplings and seedlings.
- *Low Plain* – Leo Maslin will be checking out the area for tree harvesting.

Other Business

- The Board of Selectmen have asked to have a joint meeting with the board. The board asked for clarity of the date; whether it was May 22nd and June 12th.
- Easement monitoring was discussed.
- Rules of Procedure are being drafted.

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 at 8:30am.

Motion to Adjourn

IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Maggie Ford) to adjourn the meeting. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 9:09am.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Bottari-Richtmyer,
Recording Secretary
Town of New London