

**TOWN OF NEW LONDON  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 21, 2005  
MEETING MINUTES (Final)**

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

GUESTS (at various times of the meeting): Peter Blakeman, Deirdre Sheerr, Tom and Ann Marie Thomas, Charlie Hirschberg, Bob Ewing, Peter Schiess, Ben Kimball, Hugh Chapin, Dick Clayton, John Wilson (Pleasant Lake Protective Association)

Les Norman, Chair, opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

1. Minutes of November 16, 2005 were approved unanimously.
2. Thomas Property (Tax Map 103, lot 18): The Standard Dredge and Fill Application filed previously by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas had been reviewed by the NLCC and not supported. In a letter dated 10/27/05, the NLCC invited Mr. and Mrs. Thomas to a NLCC meeting to discuss alternative solutions to developing their driveway relocation and garage site. Peter Blakeman presented the proposed site plan for the Thomas's driveway and garage. Both Peter Blakeman, engineer, and Deirdre Sheerr, architect, spoke for the proposed site plan. Members of the NLCC stressed that the fundamental issue for the CC was the impact on wetlands, particularly in an area that already has a high pollutant runoff into Lake Sunapee. It was also stated that it was difficult to understand the proposed plan and its impact from just a paper review. It was suggested that a site visit to the property with Mr. Blakeman and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas take place. A tentative date was set for January 3, 2006. Ruth White will confirm with the owners.
3. Possible Cluster Development: The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of development on a 100 acre parcel owned by Bob Ewing (Tax Map 96, lot 15) abutting Main Street, Lyon Brook Road and Balsam Acres Road. Charlie Hirschberg, engineer, presented a conceptual overview of a development plan. Town sewer and water are already there; however there is a lot of runoff and wetlands in the area. They are looking at a possible 11 lots, all of which would have a 100' buffer zone from wetland areas. Buffer zones would not be part of the individual lots. In order for this to go forward, the NLCC would need to approve the crossing of wetlands. The NLCC supported going forward with the development of more specific plans for this area to be submitted for further review by the NLCC. The NLCC has supported this type of development in the past because of the presence of town sewer and water.
4. Middle School Siting: Peter Schiess presented a conceptual plan for architectural land planning around a new Middle School, should it be in New

London. The building plan presented was the one developed for the previously proposed location in Sutton. Mr. Schiess was looking for advice from the NLCC since the plan would have some impact on abutting wetlands. He also wanted to dispel rumors that the actual impact was greater than what he believed it would be. He estimated that approximately 12,000 sq. ft. of wetlands would be affected. He was not asking for NLCC endorsement of the plan. It was determined that there was not enough information or detail for the NLCC to assess the environmental impact of any plan surrounding a new Middle School in New London. Members of the Pleasant Lake Protective Association were present to monitor the discussion and any possible impact on Pleasant Lake.

5. Whitney Brook Road/Grace Road: There was discussion of changes the town of Wilmot is making to their roads (widening) and their effect on drainage and traffic that will impact New London. Concern was expressed that there was little consultation with the Town of New London on these changes and their potential impact. Les Norman will talk with some members of the Wilmot Conservation Commission and report back.
6. Winter Walks (Ruth White): The schedule of winter walks was set as follows:  
  
Saturday, February 4, 2006: duck boxes, low plains – Peter Stanley  
Tuesday, February 14, 2006: duck boxes, Mountain Road - Ruth White  
Tuesday, February 21, 2006: Cook Trail - Laura Alexander  
Tuesday, February, 28, 2006: snowshoe walk, Great Brook Trail – Dan Allen  
  
9:00 a.m. start time for all winter walks. Each walk is approximately 2 hours long. Ruth will post to CC website, the recreation website and put in the January 25<sup>th</sup> Kearsage Shopper.
7. Town Trail Map (Bob Crane): Clark Trail is now on the map. There are funds to print on the heavier water proof paper. Motion made by Terry Dancy and seconded by Emma Crane to sell maps for \$4.00 each. Motion was unanimously approved.
8. Trail Work (Dan Allen): The two bridges are in with railings. Some tree removal has been completed. Overall, the trails are in pretty good shape. The CC needs to think about the board walk to be built on the Messer Pond Trail.
9. Planning Board Zoning Regulation Changes: Draft zoning regulation changes will be posted to the town website by Tuesday, December 27. It was decided to have a special meeting specifically to discuss the zoning regulation changes. The meeting was set for Wednesday, January 11, 2006 at 1:00.
10. Other:

- a. The Messer Pond Protective Association Milfoil Funding report distributed at November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was put in file. The NLCC supports them getting funding in the future but there was nothing to discuss at this time.
- b. Peter Stanley distributed and briefly discussed Senate Bill 140, suggesting that the NLCC should be opposed to the bill. CC members concurred. Peter will draft a letter from Les to be sent to state representatives Bob O'Dell, David Kidder and Randy Foose. A motion was made by Ruth White, seconded by Dan Allen, to send this letter to the editors of the Argus Champion and the Intertown Record.
- c. Ben Kimball from the Natural Heritage Bureau of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development presented a draft of the Philbrick - Cricenti Bog brochure for NLCC review and endorsement. The Bog was selected as an exemplary natural community and would be added to the Bureau's list of natural communities in New Hampshire. This program is a public/private partnership between the state of New Hampshire and the New Hampshire chapter of the Nature Conservancy. Les will review and sign the form as requested.

Submitted by:

Linda Hanlon  
Recording Secretary