



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NEW LONDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 18, 2016

8:30 AM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Vernon; Dan Allen; Laura Alexander, Vice-Chair; Robert Brown, Chair; Michael Kennedy; Michael Gelcius; Maggie Ford, Alternate; Andrew Deegan; Tim Paradis

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Ruth White (**Excused**), Shawn Costello

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Blewitt, New London Recreation Committee; Richard Green, Central Lakes Dock Co.; Gerry Gold, New London Resident; Kasey Lipscomb, Kearsarge High School

1. Call to Order Regular Meeting

Chairperson Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Public Comment - for items not listed on the Agenda

None.

3. Permit Application / Review Committee (Lucy, Mike & Com.)

- A. Wetlands Permit Application, 721 Little Sunapee Road, Morgan, Michael, and Laurie

Lucy St. John, Planning and Zoning Administrator, presented the Permit Application to the Commission that she received on January 6, 2017. The Project Description detailed that it was to build and install a second 6-foot by 30-foot seasonal floating dock, attached to two existing large rocks, and that the shoreline frontage was 530-plus feet.

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (Laura Alexander) AND SECONDED (Michael Gelcius) to sign the expedited Wetlands Permit Application for 721 Little Sunapee Road as presented. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

- B. Trust Shoreline Permit Application, 159 Poor Road, David Peeler Trustee

Ms. St. John briefly mentioned this Application, received December 21, 2016. The Project Description detailed that it was to demolish the house and foundation, and to remove it from the premises. Further, the old foundation excavation would be filled with clean fill. Finally, the site would be regraded, mulched, and seeded. She went on to state that no work was proposed along the shoreline or in the 50-foot buffer, and that pre-construction impervious within the 250-foot reference line is 19.9% and post-construction impervious would be 10.3%.

4. Planning Board Update

Tim Paradis stated that the Planning Board is just getting ready for the Public Hearing that is to be held on Monday, January 25th, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at Whipple Hall, with regard to the Signs and Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinances.

5. Budget Committee Meeting January 4, 2017

Chair Brown informed the Commission that he sent them the Minutes from the Budget Committee meeting. He stated that the original budget passed, and that he informed the Budget Committee of the cash-positive income as a result of:

- Maps
- Timber Harvest

He went on to state that another hearing with the Budget Committee is scheduled.

6. Review, Confirm, and Approve the December 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (Michael Gelcius) AND SECONDED (Maggie Ford) to accept the minutes of December 21, 2016. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Pleasant St. West & East Conservation Easement, Proposal by Gerry Gold

Andrew Deegan discussed West Pleasant Street. He informed the Commission that the Attorney is speaking to the Town Council because the Town isn't giving up anything, in terms of easements, and now they are currently at a standstill. He said that February 6th is the cutoff date for easements, and that the Attorney is meeting again with Town Council on January 25th, and that Mr. Deegan would keep the Commission apprised of the results of that meeting.

Gerry Gold discussed East Pleasant Street, and his revised proposal, which basically would contain language within the Conservation Easement that would reserve the right to develop a park, or recreational facility, on the property. Much discussion was held between Mr. Gold and the Commission regarding the pros and cons of creating a "standard" Conservation Easement, or one that had conditions within it. This segued into a conversation regarding the upcoming Town Meeting, and allowing the town residents to voice their opinions on the future of this land.

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (Mark Vernon) AND SECONDED (Dan Allen) to delay submitting a Warrant Article for the Conservation Easement for East Pleasant Street out for one year, until Town Meeting 2018, in order to have time to discuss and approve a more detailed Conservation Easement. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED (4-3). In favor of the Motion: Maggie Ford, Mark Vernon, Dan Allen, Tim Paradis. Against the Motion: Michael Gelcius, Andrew Deegan, Chair Brown.

8. Land Acquisition Projects Update

- NLCC Desirable Lands List Updates

The Commission discussed the current list, and who would be contacted by letter.

9. Trails & Projects

- Low Plain Stewardship Plan Public Tour January 14, 2017

Chair Brown informed the Commission that it was a good turnout of residents from Wilmot, Sutton, Grantham, and New London, and that he had received no negative comments. He went on to further state that the site looks good and completed, and that it just needs some cold weather now. His outlook was that within the second or third week of February, they would begin to move in for the harvest.

Discussion was held regarding the market and profitability foreseen from this harvest, as well as possibly closing the road, to prevent accidents during the harvest, itself. The Commission threw around ideas of when and where to post signs regarding the road closure.

- Hospital Community Trail

Mark Vernon stated he has not yet heard from Faccone about the entrance at Hubert's. He hoped that the "christening" of the trail would be in June.

- Land Owner/NLCC Trail Agreement
- Trail Head Maps Update/Printing

Mr. Vernon informed the Commission that he would like input from them regarding the details of the maps. He stated he'd feel better if they held off on printing the maps until they have come up with a current version of it, which he predicted would be somewhere around April or May 2017. Mr. Deegan suggested putting a map on the website in the meanwhile.

Mr. Vernon suggested that a Subcommittee be formed to hone the details of the map. Michael Kennedy and Dan Allen offered their assistance.

10. Contact Info Form

Chair Brown distributed the form to the Commission, and, once they were completed, collected them to bring them downstairs.

11. Other

- New Ideas
- Programs
- Proposed Spring Fling 5K Fun Run/Walk @ Low Plain 4/22/17

Kasey Lipscomb, Kearsarge High School Senior, presented her proposal to the Commission, which she indicated was her Senior Project and fundraiser for SRKG. Much discussion was held between the Commission and Ms. Lipscomb regarding her proposal, and the pros and cons to doing the 5K in April, as well as at the location she suggested. Parking, nesting season, and public safety were also brought up as a potential issue. The conclusion that was reached was that Ms. Lipscomb needed to change her venue and talk to other Town Departments to finalize her plans.

12. Next Meeting Date - Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Refer to the Conservation Commission Meeting Schedule and the Town's website for updated meeting information.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria O'Connor
Recording Secretary
Town of New London, NH