



Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire

November 2019

Citizens Advisory Committee Hosts Discussion on Workforce Housing



The New London Citizens Advisory Committee welcomed Andrew Winter, Executive Director of Twin Pines Housing Trust, to Whipple Memorial Town Hall at its Saturday, November 4th meeting. Twin Pines Housing is a developer and provider of affordable housing in the Upper Connecticut River Valley region for individuals and families with low to moderate incomes. They offer housing in Vermont and New Hampshire located in Lebanon, Hanover, Enfield, Hartford, White River Junction, and Woodstock; its mission is *“to increase access to quality housing and supportive services to meet the pressing and long-term needs of the Upper Valley community.”* Mr. Winter explained that there is a need for affordable housing in the area, pointing to data that suggests Merrimack County has an unemployment rate of 2.1% and vacancy rates for 2-bedroom rental unit at 0.5% with waiting lists for affordable housing that can stretch into years. The meeting was well attended by Citizen Advisory Committee members and residents of Hilltop Condominium. Hilltop residents were particularly interested in the topic because a workforce housing project was suggested for a parcel of land abutting condominium property. When questioned if the parcel in question was suitable for workforce housing, Mr. Winter informed the group that he could not comment on any particular parcel as being desirable or undesirable for purposes of a workforce housing development unless

he is familiar with the parcel and the surrounding area. He suggested that as a general rule, he looks for properties that have water and sewer available and that are located near public transportation, pointing out that not all residents have cars so being able to use public transportation or having stores and services within walking distance is very helpful. Mr. Winter reviewed the existing Twin Pines Housing developments that include new construction as well as renovating existing buildings. He pointed out that a study of nine residents in one development indicated improved health and a 44% decline in medical costs in the nine months after moving into the housing versus the nine month prior.

Mr. Winter pointed to the recently completed Tracy Community Housing in West Lebanon as his organization’s first net-zero and passive housing development. Net-zero and passive housing means that the building produces as much energy through renewable resources, such as solar panels, as it consumes and is constructed adhering to strict standards designed to reduce energy consumption. The workforce housing presentation was very well received by those in attendance, with one attendee remarking that while he has lived in the area for many years he was not aware of the existence of the workforce housing communities reviewed by Mr. Winter.

Chair Rollins thanked Mr. Winter for attending the meeting and sharing his experiences as a developer and provider of affordable housing, noting that New London is currently working on its Master Plan and will be revisiting this important topic in the near future.

Note: Mr. Winter’s presentation can be viewed on the town’s website, Citizen Advisory Committee section.

2019 Tax Rate	
Municipal:	\$4.13
County:	\$2.67
Local Education:	\$5.97
State Education:	<u>\$1.94</u>
Total	\$14.71
New London–Springfield Water Precinct: \$1.08	

Return of the Pumpkin People Contest

October marked the sixth annual **Return of the Pumpkin People** contest in New London. This wildly popular event encourages residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations and town departments to showcase their creative talents by creating “pumpkin people”! Some are scary, some are funny and all are memorable! Each year the pumpkin people displays get better and better as entrants in the four categories vie for a WIN—garnering much sought after bragging rights!

Judging for the contest is done in two parts. The first is an online survey distributed via Facebook and the Recreation Department email list where people can select their favorite in each of the four categories. The second is an on-site visit by a panel of judges to ensure the on-line voting accurately represents the entries creative quality of work, and to ensure that displays in the less traveled areas are given full consideration. The judges consider the on-line poll results (350 people cast votes) and their visual inspections of the 42 registered participants to declare the winners.

Thank you to all those who participated in this fun event. If you would like to be a 2020 Pumpkin People judge please contact Scott Blewitt, Recreation Director at recreation@nl-nh.com.



*** 2019 WINNERS ***

Residential Category

- 1st - "*Charlotte's Web*" - Biuso- Baylon Family
- 2nd - "*The Birds*" - Dumais Family
- Honorable mention - "*Snow Much Fun*" - Hamel Family

Organization Category

- 1st - "*Zoo*" - New London Hospital
- 2nd - "*School Bus*" - Kearsarge School District
- Honorable Mention - "*Mountain Day*" - Colby Sawyer College

Business Category

- 1st - "*Adams Family*" - O'Halloran Group
- 2nd - "*Wizard of Oz*" - Artisans
- Honorable Mention - "*Raffiki and Baby Simba*" - Bonin Architect

Town Department Category

- 1st - "*Pete the Cat*" - Tracy Memorial Library
- 2nd "*Day of the Dead*" - Public Works Department
- Honorable Mention - "*Cliffhanger*"- Fire Department

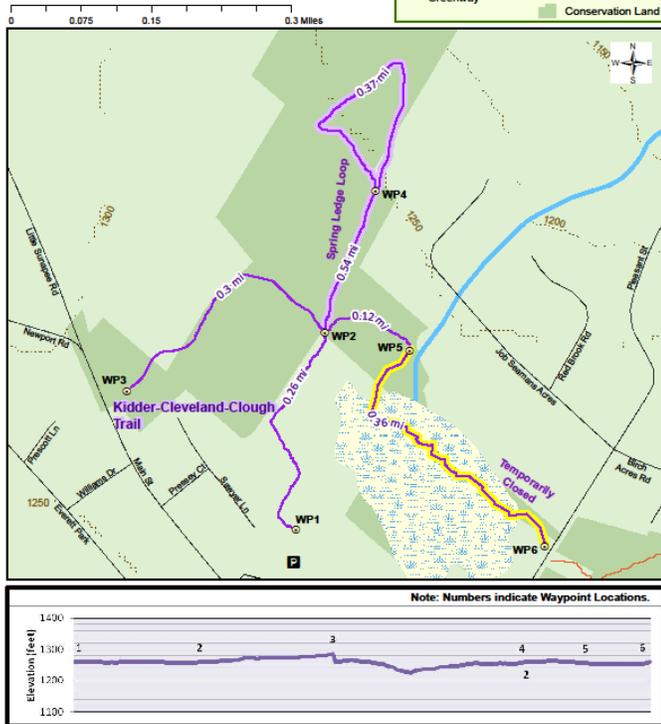
"Spring Ledge Loop trail opens"

The Conservation Commission is pleased to announce the opening of the Spring Ledge Loop trail. This loop extends the Kidder-Cleveland-Clough Trail beyond the Spring Ledge connector to a lovely route along the perimeter of the farm fields and returns via a wooded .35 mile loop. The new trail offers views of the fields and traverses some wet and uneven ground with boardwalks. It is marked with signs and orange blazes. The Kidder-Cleveland-Clough trail system now connects to the old middle school, Spring Ledge Farm and Main St with a spur to a beaver meadow and the headwaters of Red Brook. The trail segment to Pleasant Street is temporarily closed until water levels in the beaver meadow are stabilized. We hope you enjoy the trail!

New London Trails Kidder-Cleveland-Clough Trail

This map shows footpaths maintained by the New London Conservation Commission and affiliated organizations. Please keep all trails free of litter and leave all plants and animals undisturbed. For more information visit www.NL-NHCC.com

Map Updated 2019 by UVLSRPC.



Thinking About Trash and Recycling.....

Ever wonder what happens to the trash and recycling you bring to the transfer station? Kearsarge Climate Action met with Bob Harrington, New London's Public Works Director, and John Early, Transfer Station Manager to discuss this important topic. Here are some of the things we learned:

New London works with the Northern Resource and Recovery Association (NRRRA), a nonprofit that works with towns to help locate recycle options. NRRRA does all the leg work, finding the best prices and arranging and scheduling the trucks that transport the material. It's complicated, partly because of frequent market changes. Most significantly, a few years ago China, which used to take U.S. trash and recycling, stopped doing so. Also, the market dictates what can be recycled. That's why some #1 and #2 plastics are rejected, because the machines that handle them take only bottles and jars, not square or rectangular shapes. And a huge amount of plastic comes in. Our station packs 64 bales of it in a year, and each bale is a cube with each side measuring 8 feet square.

The town recycles paper and cardboard, but there's little money in it, because of trucking fees. There is also not much of a market for metal; the town breaks even on it. The town has 1000 yards of processed glass, with few markets for it. New London is a leader in using crushed glass in public works projects and there are plans to use it as a base layer for roads in the new Senior Living project on Parkside. Our trash goes to a landfill in Berlin, and the town pays \$98 per ton to do it. And from June to September, New London residents and businesses bring in 60 tons per week of it. Harrington quoted the phrase "**Reduce, reuse, recycle,**" and said that reducing is the most important of these.

Joy Kubit, New London Resident and member of Kearsarge Climate Action



Baled recyclables stored at Public Works Dept.



BRUSH & METAL DISPOSAL CENTER

Hours of Operation

Tuesdays, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Sundays, Noon - 4:00 pm

December through March

Every 3rd Sunday of the month

Transfer Station decals required to enter



Special thanks to
Karen & Nancy at
the Public Works
Department.



Photos Needed!

Like sharing your photography skills?

Did you know the front and back cover of New London's annual town report could be a photo accredited to you?

Submit your photos of New London, including town events. No hard copies or watermarks please. Photos should be forwarded to Dianne via email no later than January 15th to: office@nl-nh.com

Just a
reminder...



REMINDERS

from the Town Clerk/Tax Collector

- * New tax bills will be mailed mid-November:
 - 3rd Quarter - due January 2, 2020
 - 4th Quarter - due March 31, 2020
- * Sewer bills will shortly follow.

Important to know....

You can renew or inspect your vehicle(s), in any order, 3 months prior to your DMV expiration month.

Friday Office Hours Are Back!

NEW OFFICE HOURS FOR

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE

STARTING IN DECEMBER THE OFFICE

WILL NOW BE OPEN ON FRIDAYS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SECOND & LAST SATURDAY OF THE

MONTH

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

EXCEPT HOLIDAY WEEKENDS

TRACY MEMORIAL LIBRARY NOVEMBER EVENTS

- * 1st Tuesdays - Evening Book Discussions @ 2:00 pm
- * 2nd Tuesdays - Morning Book Discussions @ 9:30 am
- * Nov. 12,13,19 - Fall Story Time @ 10:00 am
- * Tuesdays - Lego Club (ages 5+) @ 3:00 PM
- * Nov 21 - Chess and Cribbage Night @ 6:00 pm

Check out TracyLibrary.org for more details.



THE NEW LONDON TOWN OFFICES & PUBLIC WORKS WILL BE CLOSED ON



**Thursday & Friday
November 28 & 29**



**THE NEW LONDON TOWN OFFICES,
PUBLIC WORKS &
TRANSFER STATION**

Will be **CLOSED**
Friday, December 6
12:00pm to 2:30pm

For the annual employee holiday luncheon.
Thank you for supporting your employees.

**Current Use Board Public Forum
Coming to New London on
Wednesday, November 20, 2019
6:00 pm held at the Town Office
in the Sydney Crook conference room**

If you have Current Use Land or would like to know more about how the current use rates are figured, please join us for one of the three public forums held around the state.

Our Chief Assessor Norm Bernaiche is on the State Board and will be joined by many other members of the Board from around the state.

At this forum you can ask any questions concerning the Current Use program in the State of New Hampshire.



- ⇒ **Mon, Nov. 11 - Veterans' Day - Town Offices CLOSED**
- ⇒ Tues, Nov. 12 @ 6:30 PM - Planning Board
- ⇒ Thurs, Nov. 14 @ 6:30 PM - Building & Facilities Comm.
- ⇒ Mon, Nov. 18 @ 6:00 PM - Board of Selectmen
- ⇒ Mon, Nov. 18 @ 6:30 PM - Joint Selectmen & Budget Committee
- ⇒ Tues, Nov. 19 @ 6:30 PM - Planning Board
- ⇒ Wed, Nov. 20 @ 8:30 AM - Conservation Commission
- ⇒ Wed., Nov. 20 @ 6:00 PM—Board of Selectmen @ Fire Station
- ⇒ Wed, Nov. 20 @ 6:00 PM - Current Use Public Forum
- ⇒ Thurs, Nov. 21 @ 8:30 AM - Master Plan Committee
- ⇒ **Thursday & Friday - Thanksgiving Holiday
November 28 & 29 - Town Offices CLOSED**
- ⇒ Mon, Dec 2 @6:00 PM—Board of Selectmen
- ⇒ **Friday, Dec 6— Noon—2:30 PM—Employee Holiday Party— all town offices closed**
- ⇒ Wed., Dec 4 @7:00 PM—Budget Committee

Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Town Offices, 2nd floor. For a complete list of meetings go to the town website: www.nl-nh.com

Join our email list to have our monthly news sent directly to you.
To sign up visit our website: nl-nh.com
Our Town / Citizens News Sign Up

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