

Town of Londonderry
Conservation Commission

MINUTES

Thursday, March 23, 2023, 5PM

Meeting Location:

Londonderry Town Office
100 Old School Street, South Londonderry

The meeting was called to order at 5:05

Present: Jane MacKugler, Helen Hamman, Sunny Wright, Mark Wright, Gary Hedman, Irwin Kuperberg, Steve Swinburne

Visitors: Larry Gubb, Dick Dale, Elsie Smith, Sharon Crossman, Kevin Beattie

- 1) Additions/Deletions to the agenda- There were none
- 2) Mark moved to approve the February 23, 2023 minutes as written and the motion was seconded by Helen. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 3) Old Business
 - a. Dam -An additional appropriation for an engineering study was approved at Town Meeting. The town has asked for volunteers to serve on a committee that will look into the issues surrounding the pros and cons of removing the dam.
 - b. Prouty Land - Gary is still waiting to hear back from VTrans as to restrictions on placement. Helen will also reach out to VTrans.
 - c. One Londonderry Trail Project- One Londonderry received our memorandum and has not reached out to us regarding other trail projects.
 - d. Hunter Excavating Act 250 Permit- No date has been set yet for a hearing. Irwin will apply for LCC party status.
 - e. Forest Management Plans for Town Properties - There has been no update from Dana Hazen and with the snows in the past week it's likely he hasn't been able to start the tree identification.
 - f. Wastewater project – Bimonthly meetings are now taking place. Test pits at the Custer Sharp property await archaeological review and will happen after the snow melts. Testing has occurred at the Library property and the results are pending the design that is ultimately adopted.
 - g. The Nature Conservancy / Glebe Mountain- The Nature Conservancy and the US Fish and Wildlife Service hosted a webinar on March 1st at 6:30pm to provide a brief overview and answer any questions related to the change in ownership. The program can be viewed here:
https://www.canva.com/design/DAFck3DdOvY/N3NjKbLu_UvybxV1BGTT7A/watch?utm_content=DAFck3DdOvY&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink
 - h. Library section -We will stock the shelf with books based on a monthly theme we will designate.
 - i. Events

1. A Tour of Vermont's Natural Communities- Irwin has had no new communication from Bob Zaino.
2. Old Growth-We are looking for a speaker
3. Nature of Vermont-pending
4. Oaks-pending
5. Where Have All the Insects Gone?- Steve contacte Bryan Pfeiffer , who will reply after April 1. July-August would be a good time for this talk. This would also be a good time for a Pollinator Garden welcome reception.

4) New Business

- a. Meet with Planning Commission members to discuss Conservation District bylaws- The PC would like to know : 1- would the LCC like to participate with the DRB in zoning review as it pertains to Conservation Districts 2- if the LCC would like to help decide what the minimum lot size would be in a Conservation District 3- whether regulation of building envelopes should be the mechanism for regulation of Conservation Districts.4- Is a Conservation District necessary?

Given the complex issues surrounding these issues we will hold a special meeting to discuss them we will hold a special meeting on Monday, March 27 at 4pm.

- b. Other items of note from Town Meeting- Appropriation of \$500 to the Londonderry Conservation Fund; Appropriation of funds to hire a minutes taker.

- 5) Wildlife Sightings – Robin, turkeys, juncos, song sparrow, bluebirds, opossum, piliated woodpecker, turkey vulture, pine grosbeaks

Next regular meeting April 20 at 5pm