

**Town of Londonderry, Vermont
Londonderry Conservation Commission
Thursday, August 17, 2023 – 5:00 PM**

Draft Minutes

Londonderry Conservation Commission Members Present: Helen Hamman, Stephen Swinburne, Mark Wright, Sunny Wright, Gary Hedman, Jane MacKugler

Absent: Irwin Kuperberg

1. Call meeting to order:-

Mark Wright called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM

2. Additions or deletions to the agenda:

There were no other additions or deletions to the agenda

3. Approval of Minutes:

Helen Hamman made a motion to approve the minutes from the LCC's July 20, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

4. Old Business:

Williams Dam:

Helen Hamman presented minutes from the August 7, 2023 Williams Dam Advisory Committee meeting. Topics discussed included low-level gate operation, the desire to hire a hydrologist to study the effects of the Williams Dam on flooding upstream and downstream of the Dam, outreach to the Connecticut River Conservancy for a presentation, and discussion of video and photos from the July 10, 2023 flooding.

Pollinator Garden:

The proposed signage for the pollinator garden on the Prouty Land was discussed. LCC Chair Irwin Kuperberg (not present) has submitted an application for a sign permit to the Zoning Administrator.

It was recommended that the LCC reach out to representatives from Bee the Change to update them on the excellent condition of the pollinator plot, and invite them to schedule a follow up visit for the purposes of a public announcement (i.e. Chester Telegraph) to generate interest and awareness of the project.

Forest Stewardship Plan for Town Properties:

The Commission briefly discussed the August 2023 Forest Stewardship Plan for the Town, prepared by Dana Hazen and Redstart Forestry. Commission members requested additional time to review the Plan for discussion at the next LCC meeting. A question of the funding source for the Forest Stewardship Plan was raised.

Wastewater Project:

Gary Hedman provided a brief update on the Village Wastewater Committee progress in selecting and evaluating potential sites for wastewater disposal beds. The engineer for the project is planning to conduct test pitting activities in the Custer Sharpe parcel in the coming weeks to determine soil suitability. An update to the Commission will be provided once the date of the test pitting is confirmed.

Events:

Mark Wright proposed hosting a series of presenters to discuss River Ecology and the Effects of Vermont Forests on Flooding. Possible presenters include: Danny & Pete Cobb (Loggers), Jock Harvey (Logger), Henry Carr (Arborist – present day threats to forests), Bob Wells (Local Historian), Kevin Beattie (Local Historian)

Helen Hamman discussed the Garden Clubs intention on hosting a presentation on avoiding invasive species in landscaping, potentially in September 2024.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the LCC was set for September 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM. Location to be determined.

5. **Adjourn:**

Mark Wright made a motion to adjourn at 6:18 PM. All approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Hedman
Londonderry Conservation Commission