



Londonderry Conservation Commission  
Tuesday, January 8, 2019  
Minutes

1 **Present:** Marge Badois, Chair; Gene Harrington, Vice Chair; Bob Maxwell, member; Mike Noone,  
2 member; Deb Lievens, member; Richard Floyd, member; Mike Speltz, alternate member and Raymond  
3 Brown, alternate member  
4

5 **Absent:** Mike Byerly, member, Jocelyn Demas, alternate member and Ted Combes, Town Council  
6 member  
7

8 **Also present:** Amy Kizak, GIS Manager/Comprehensive Planner, Beth Morrison, Recording Secretary,  
9 members of a Girl's Scout Troop  
10

11 Marge Badois called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. She appointed M Speltz to vote for M Byerly.

12 **Old Business**

13 **Bunny Cut:** M Badois informed the Commission that the Sara Beth section is almost done and at the  
14 Hickory Hill section they are still trying to get Eversource's permission to skid trees under the power  
15 lines. She said that Charlie Moreno is working with Eversource to drive the skidder over the trees to cut  
16 them up before the trees are dragged through. She said that there was a meeting last Saturday morning  
17 with abutters to Hickory Hill and no one attended. She stated that she thinks this cut will be particularly  
18 visible and is working on getting appropriate signage out on the trails. B Maxwell said that he believes all  
19 the forms of communication the Commission has been doing, such as the newspaper, email, Facebook,  
20 etc., should continue throughout the project. He also said he asked Fish & Game for some type of  
21 signage to leave when they are done to explain why the trees were cut. M Badois opened it up to  
22 questions from the Girl's Scout troop. The Commission answered questions regarding how big the cut is  
23 and why there is a need to cut the forest.

24 **Mathes:** B Maxwell informed the Commission he recently walked the unofficial Piper Trail that connects  
25 Mathes and Porcupine Ridge trails. Both signs the Commission installed, indicating Piper trail is closed  
26 per New Hampshire Fish & Game, were removed and set beside the trail. He reinstalled the signs, but  
27 said he thinks the Commission should support the bikers and not close down the trail.

28 **Kendall Pond:** M Noone updated the Commission on the project. He said that the Department of  
29 Corrections has agreed to build the picnic tables and he spoke to Richard Canuel, Chief Building  
30 Inspector, Health Officer, Zoning Administrator & Code Enforcement Officer, about getting a permit for  
31 the observation platform. B Maxwell said he needs to program the second camera.

32 **Wetland Rules:** M Speltz said that there has been an ongoing project, for over two years now, to revise  
33 the New Hampshire wetland rules. He informed the Commission that today there was a special session  
34 because the New Hampshire Conservation Commission (NHCC) insisted on receiving more input. He  
35 pointed out several areas of concern with the first regarding minor impacts. He said that the new rule is



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36 proposing to have no conservation review of minor impacts covered by Permit by Notification (PBN) and  
37 they would be handled by New Hampshire Department of Environmental Science (NHDES) within five  
38 days of receiving a permit request. D Lievens asked if the town would be made aware of these requests  
39 with the new rule. M Speltz stated that question remains unanswered at this time in terms of timeliness.  
40 He said that this new rule would create a loss of local review and communication, as the local  
41 commission is the eyes and ears of the town. He explained that there is a new category called a priority  
42 resource area which is a way of judging whether a project should be considered a minimum impact,  
43 major impact or notification. He stated that a priority resource area has been defined as where you get a  
44 natural heritage bureau "hit." He said the problem with this is that the database only includes the ones  
45 that NHDES has found. He noted another change to the rules is regarding a pre-application process. He  
46 said that a developer would come to the Commission to present their idea before going to NHDES. He  
47 said he proposed that if a developer comes to the Commission before going to NHDES, they would be  
48 eligible for a five day review, but if they do not come before the Commission it is a thirty day review. He  
49 told the Commission that the last day for comments regarding these changes is January 18, 2019, and  
50 urged his fellow Commissioners to write a letter with their comments to Mary Ann Tilton, Administrator  
51 NH Department of Environmental Services Water Division, Wetlands Bureau. D Lievens suggested that  
52 the Commission should submit a letter, as well as individual letters. M Speltz noted that the due date for  
53 comments is before the Commission's next meeting. D Lievens made a motion to authorize the Chair to  
54 send a letter to Mary Ann Tilton at the Wetland's Bureau with the Commissions comments and  
55 proposed solutions regarding the wetland permit rules. G Harrington seconded the motion. The motion  
56 passed, 6-0-0.

57 **New Business**

58 **Conservation Fund Best Practices:** M Badois noted from watching the video, the Commission should  
59 have a treasurer who would keep track of the funds. M Speltz asked if the statute called for a treasurer  
60 on the Conservation Commission. D Lievens stated it did. R Brown said that he believes the treasurer  
61 should be someone who possesses the knowledge and skill set to do the job. D Lievens said that in her  
62 opinion, any one of the members could perform the job. M Speltz said that NH Municipal Association  
63 and the NH Association of Conservation Commissions have created a set of spreadsheets that the  
64 Commission could use, which would make it easier. M Badois also noted that timber funds cannot go  
65 into a Conservation Fund, unless they are from the town forest. G Harrington said that back when he  
66 started, there was a town meeting where it was decided that any funds from timber harvest would go to  
67 the Conservation Fund. M Speltz added that the town forest rule does not apply to Londonderry, as  
68 there is no town forest. M Badois pointed out that D Lievens has offered to take on the treasurer  
69 position.

70 **Election of Officers:** M Badois appointed M Speltz to vote for M Byerly.



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71 G Harrington made a motion for Marge Badois to remain Chair of the Commission. M Speltz seconded  
72 the motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

73 D Lievens made a motion for Gene Harrington to remain Vice Chair of the Commission. R Floyd  
74 seconded the motion. The motion passed, 6-0-1, with G Harrington abstaining.

75 G Harrington made a motion to appoint Deb Lievens as treasurer for the Commission. M Speltz  
76 seconded the motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

77 **Parcel donations:** M Badois informed the Commission that the Evergreen Circle parcel deed has been  
78 created. M Speltz added that he believes there is an agreement with town staff and the owners. He  
79 pointed out that the GIS boundary coordinates are different than what is on the referenced plan to Amy  
80 Kizak. A Kizak stated that she would take a look to verify. M Badois said that there was another parcel  
81 being donated along the Rail Trail. M Speltz passed his phone around for the Commission to look at  
82 pictures of the land. He said that the parcel is largely wet and did not think it would be developable land.  
83 D Lievens asked if there would be a deed restriction on this parcel. M Speltz said it should be done the  
84 same way as Evergreen Circle. M Speltz made a motion to recommend to the Town Council accept the  
85 parcel donation. G Harrington seconded the motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

86 **Musquash Field Day:** M Badois said that Musquash Field Day could be on February 16, 2019, but she is  
87 unsure if the bunny cut will be finished. G Harrington pointed out that the Commission could use a  
88 different entrance for the field day if the bunny cut is not finished. M Badois said that it would be nice to  
89 use the Hickory Hill entrance to explain the bunny cut on field day. The Commission agreed to plan on  
90 February 16, 2019, for Musquash Field Day.

91 **RCCD invoice approval:** D Lievens made a motion to pay Rockingham County Conservation District  
92 (RCCD) \$650.00 for the monitoring of Ingersoll from the Open Space Protection Fund. B Maxwell  
93 seconded the motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

94 **Trailways:** M Badois informed the Commission Trailways would like to start a committee with the  
95 Commission, so Trailways can get involved with other trails, not just the Rail Trail. She said they are  
96 interested in trail maintenance and aligning their goals with the Commissions' goals to get more projects  
97 around town completed. She read the suggested meeting times from Trail ways to the Commission and  
98 asked for volunteers. R Floyd, M Noone, D Lievens and B Maxwell volunteered.

99 **Minutes:** The Commissioners went over the public minutes from December 11, 2018. B Maxwell made a  
100 motion to accept the minutes as amended. G Harrington seconded the motion. The motion passed, 7-0-  
101 0.



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102 **Adjournment:** G Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. M Speltz seconded the  
103 motion. The motion passed, 7-0-0.

104 Respectfully Submitted,  
105 Beth Morrison  
106 Recording Secretary