



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Minutes

1 **Present:** Marge Badois, Chair; Gene Harrington, Vice Chair; Deb Lievens, member; Susan Malouin,
2 member; Jocelyn Demas, alternate member; and Mike Speltz, alternate member

3

4 **Absent:** Bob Maxwell, member; and Mike Byerly, member

5

6 **Also present:** Amy Kizak, GIS Manager/Comprehensive Planner; and Beth Morrison, Recording
7 Secretary

8

9 Marge Badois called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. She appointed M Speltz to vote for M Byerly and J
10 Demas to vote for B Maxwell.

11 **Unfinished Business**

12 **Bio-blitz:** M Badois told the Commission that there was an article in the paper and on Facebook about
13 the Bio-blitz, but she has no way of knowing if people participated. J Demas mentioned that the Biology
14 teacher at the high school has the information as well. M Badois wondered if they were going to compile
15 data after the month is over. D Lievens replied that she believed they would.

16 **Ground water protection ordinance:** M Badois reminded the Commission that Pierce Rigrod from the
17 New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) came to the Planning Board September
18 8, 2021, meeting and spoke in depth about the model ground water ordinance. She noted that the Town
19 Council is going to create a water protection board, with the suggestion that Art Rugg, Chair of Planning
20 Board, someone from the Town Council and Conservation Commission, as well as staff be a part of it.
21 She pointed out that grant money can help pay for attorneys or baseline studies to help with the
22 creation of the ordinance, which she learned from the lunch and learn she attended. M Speltz asked if
23 Town Planner Mailloux has taken any action on pursuing the ground water protection grants that were
24 discussed at the Planning Board meeting. A Kizak replied that she did not think so given the time
25 between the September 8, 2021, Planning Board meeting and now. M Speltz mentioned that it appears
26 to be a good idea for someone to sit down with Bess Morrison, Source Water Protection Coordinator at
27 NHDES, and go over the Town's to do list and ask for her help. A Kizak commented that she would talk to
28 Town Planner Mailloux about the suggestions and get back to the Commission. M Speltz volunteered to
29 help write the grant.

30 **Londonderry Times:** D Lievens informed the Commission that she just got an update from Paul
31 Margolin, and he asked if the Commission wanted a more frequent system or to stick to once a month.
32 The Commission agreed once a month is best right now. She noted that Solid Waste and Trailways are
33 writing articles, which would most likely mean the Commission would need an article for November. She
34 commented that she would work on a draft article about septic systems, but asked for volunteers for
35 future articles.



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Minutes

36 **New Business**

37 **Debrief: E-bike webinar and Source Water Protection webinar: E-Bike:** M Badois told the Commission
38 that D Lievens and M Byerly attended the webinar. D Lievens noted that there were two speakers that
39 were very supportive of electric bikes for various reasons, such as access, allowing people to go a farther
40 distance, and the ability to keep up with a fast rider. She said that the e-bikes are supposed to be very
41 quiet. She explained that the Commission can limit the use of e-bikes on their properties, but is not clear
42 how the Rail Trail fits into this. She commented that she is not happy with the concept, because when
43 she is in the woods, she wants it to be quiet. She pointed out that they are not considered motorized
44 vehicles. Officer Aprile stated that he ran into one hunter that rides an e-bike and it is quiet. D Lievens
45 added that hunters really like them, as they have storage. Officer Aprile mentioned that he would check
46 with Fish & Game to see if they have to be registered. J Demas remarked that she did not think they
47 would have to be registered. D Lievens read the definitions of the different classes of e-bikes. G
48 Harrington pointed out that there are signs in the Musquash that say no motorized vehicles allowed
49 without a special permit. M Speltz suggested that the Commission find out what the specific classes of e-
50 bikes are and the state's definition. He added that from what D Lievens read e-bikes are not allowed on
51 natural trails. Officer Aprile said that he spoke to Bob Rimol from Trailways and he said that as long as
52 they are electric, they are fine, but not gas. M Speltz commented that Trailways does not have legal
53 authority, so it would have to be Town Council. G Harrington pointed out that the state owns the Rail
54 Trail. M Speltz explained that the town has an agreement with the state. M Badois asked if the rules on
55 the Rail Trail could change depending upon what town the Rail Trail is in. A Kizak replied it could vary
56 town to town.

57 **Source Water Protection Program:** M Badois said that the source water protection program has grant
58 money available in the amount of \$25,000, and gets bumped up to \$30,000 if you can show you are
59 addressing climate change issues. She added that you can get two grants per year. D Lievens interjected
60 that she was at the wetlands council today and they are reviewing old topography maps, as they have
61 found streams are not where they are supposed to be. She went on stating that they are using lidar to
62 try and figure out where the streams actually are. She added that they will use this information to help
63 figure out if they widen a culvert, would there be too much flood downstream versus if they do not
64 widen it, would there be flooding upstream. She commented that she thought any culvert work could
65 apply to climate change. M Speltz mentioned that at one of the recent presentations he had been to, it
66 was stated that last year they did not deny anyone that applied for grant money. M Badois added that at
67 the most recent Town Council meeting there was discussion that big funds are going to be coming in
68 2022. M Speltz asked where is the money coming from. M Badois replied that she believed it would be
69 from NHDES. She mentioned that November 1st is the deadline for an application for grant money. She
70 explained that you can go to www.des.nh.gov and use the one stop map tool, for which you need to
71 register, and get a map that shows the well head protection and source water protection areas.

72 M Badois said that the EPA has designated September 20th – 24th as septic smart week. She said that
73 there are 10 videos about taking care of your septic system on the website and she thought it would be



Londonderry Conservation Commission
Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Minutes

74 good to put on the Facebook page. She commented that thinking of next year, getting septic systems
75 under control would be part of the source water protection ordinance. She mentioned that NHDES has
76 given Londonderry a grant totaling \$1 million dollars towards the PFAS testing and remediation. She
77 said that the Town Council is thinking of giving people \$500 towards the testing and fixing of their wells.
78 She pointed out that the grant is still being processed and might not be available for another few
79 months. She commented that in her opinion, the biggest stumbling block is how to reach the public. M
80 Speltz remarked that he hoped the testing would not just be restricted to PFAS, noting that it is
81 important to test for such things as arsenic as well. M Badois said that the money should be available to
82 anyone that has a well in Londonderry, except the people involved with Saint Gobain. She stated that
83 she would like people to share their results with the town to get started mapping this data. J Demas
84 asked if there was a map on the NHDES website showing contaminated wells. M Badois replied that they
85 do. M Speltz asked who would be running the well testing program. A Kizak replied that it is coming out
86 of the Town Managers office. M Badois said that Lisa Drabik, Assistant Town Manager, gave an update
87 last night at the Town Council meeting. M Speltz asked if the Commission would be opposed to him
88 reaching out to Lisa Drabik and speaking to her stating that the Commission is here to help. M Badois
89 noted that Tom Dolan suggested the PFAS Task Force be in charge of the grant program.

90 **Conservation Ranger:** Officer Aprile noted that the two wells found before on conservation land were
91 decommissioned. He said that he spoke to Chris Countie, Director of Pennichuk Water, and the wells
92 should be filed with ceramic so they cannot be contaminated. He informed the Commission that the
93 reason for the wells was because private wells in homes on Jewel Court, Raintree Drive and Imperial
94 Drive were drying up. He noted that it was a cost of \$25,000 per well to have them decommissioned. He
95 said that in October, they will start the monitoring of Plummer and Mack properties. He added that
96 archery season starts tomorrow, so wear your orange. J Demas commented that she would post
97 something on the Facebook page as well about the start of archery season.

98 **Position:** A Kizak said that Kirby Brown, Executive Assistant, posted both positions today and she will
99 update the Commission when she hears anything.

100 **Other Business**

101 **Minutes:** The Commissioners went over the public minutes of August 24, 2021. G Harrington made a
102 motion to approve the minutes as presented. M Speltz seconded the motion. The motion passed, 6-0-0.

103 **Adjournment:** M Speltz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. G Harrington seconded the
104 motion. The motion passed, 6-0-0.

105 Respectfully Submitted,
106 Beth Morrison
107 Recording Secretary