

**Town of Londonderry
Conservation Commission**

MINUTES

Thursday, September 17, 2026

Present: Helen Hamman, Irwin Kuperberg, Jane MacKugler, Mark Wright, Sunny Wright, Gary Hedman; visitor: Stefania Urist

1. The meeting was called to order at 510pm
2. The following item was added to the agenda: Introduction of Stephania Urist
3. The August minutes were unanimously approved after a motion by Helen seconded by Jane
4. Old Business
 - a. Natural Resources Inventory –Greta is aware of the possibilities and challenges of creating a storyboard and we are awaiting next steps from her
 - b. Stephania Urist is a Londonderry resident who introduced herself. She is an artist that eradicates invasive phragmites and uses the stalks for art installations and other kinds of projects. One of her installations is currently on view at the Southern Vermont Arts Center Sculpture Garden
 - c. Pollinator Garden-We are prioritizing eradication of the goldenrod and will organize a team to manually pull them.
 - d. Water Sampling- Water sampling for this year is now finished
 - e. Events
 - i. *Luke Groff of VT Fish & Wildlife is confirmed for October 22 for Snake Rattle and Roll which we will hold at the Depot*
 - ii. *Patti Smith of Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center will speak on Beavers on September 24 at 5:30 in the FBS library. Advertising has been placed and is ongoing.*
 - iii. *Jane spoke to Dara Carlton about a foraging talk in the spring. She is able to speak on May 15 or 16 next year.*
 - iv. *Mark will reach out to Fred Homer and Ron Svec about a follow up in March to the Owl talk and Bluebird talk, respectively. Gary suggested owl box building. In connection with that we will conduct an inventory of the bird boxes to see what happened among them. Helen will create a spreadsheet to compile the inventory that will number each one include be organized by their locations and what was found in each.*
5. Conservation News-Irwin shared articles on beavers
6. New Business
 - a. Recreation Director-tabled until next month
 - b. Land Acquisition Task Force- Mark reported that the Task Force is exploring potential properties for acquisition for future municipal and/or housing needs
 - c. West River water temperature-tabled

- d. We will organize the Biggest Tree competition for the winter with a prize (TBD) and the winner announced at Town Meeting. One suggestion for the winning tree will be a plaque placed on the tree with the winner's name on it.
- 7. Wildlife sightings -Spotted salamander at the top of Magic, foxes, tree frog, turkeys,bear

Next meeting: Thursday, October 15