

The Londonderry Monthly

Volume 7 Number 6

June 2016

Letter from the Editor:

Often times, the selfless contributions of others go unnoticed and underappreciated. As we have not had a chance for an interview yet (keep checking future editions!) I would like to take this space to thank Jim Ameden for all he has done for the community. He is both the Chief for the Phoenix Fire Co #6 and has been the Chairman of the Select Board for several years. Both positions require time, commitment and carry great responsibility, most of which goes unacknowledged. Despite a small stipend for his position on the Select Board, these jobs are on a volunteer basis. The reward comes from his service to the community, family and neighbors that he protects by his duties as a fireman or his diligence as a Select Board member.

As citizens, we all may not always agree with each other's choices, votes and opinions. That would be impossible. But we can all work together to make our town a better, safer and richer environment for our students, community and businesses. I greatly admire Jim for his contributions to our town and patience with some of the more tiresome aspects of public life. There are very few people who give so much of themselves for the benefit of others – and Jim Ameden is one of those rare people. So when you see him, please thank him for his contribution and service to our community.

Darcy Duval

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Both articles were defeated at the May 23rd Special Town Meeting. There will not be a land purchase. Thanks to all who attended. You can read the Warning on the Town of Londonderry website. Many thanks to Jim Ameden who is stepping away from the Select Board after many years of dedicated service to the town. Jim chaired his last meeting last evening. See information about his vacant seat below.

BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED – WILL YOU HELP?

The Select Board is accepting letters of interest from community members interested in being considered for a Select Board seat through March 7, **2017**. The Board has accepted Jim Ameden's resignation, with regret, and will appoint a replacement at their June 20th meeting. Written letters or emails may be submitted through June 17th. Please contact a Select Board member for additional information.

The Londonderry Development Review Board (DRB) is also seeking a new member. The board meets once a month. Letters or emails expressing interest will be accepted through June 10th. For information you can email member Esther Fishman at fishman.esther@gmail.com or contact a current member.

The Londonderry Parks Board is also seeking a member to fill a vacant seat through 2018. Please contact Kelly Pajala at the town office for more information.

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Here is what is going on with NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

THURSDAY, JUNE 2nd @ 2pm NATURAL INSECT REPELLENTS and GARDEN FIRST AID USING NATURAL PRODUCTS Gail Mann

Gail Mann, Yoga Teacher and Wellness Coach for YogaUnbound is back at Neighborhood Connections for her third presentation on using essential oils for wellness and well-being. On Thursday, June 2nd at 1pm, Gail will discuss how to use essential oils to repel bugs, treat insect bites, disinfect wounds and soothe away rashes, cuts and scrapes. Gail will also explore recommendations that are safe for children and pets.

FRIDAY JUNE 3rd Noon CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

If you have ever received a cancer diagnosis, you understandably feel isolated and overwhelmed. You may have support from family and friends, but the number one reason people join a support group is to be with others who are going through what you are experiencing. Join us in a private, safe environment where you can discuss your feelings. Bring a brown bag lunch.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15th 4- 9pm 5TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER @ JAKE'S RESTAURANT & TAVERN

All the proceeds from this annual dinner go to Neighborhood Connections. Last year, over 120 people attended and we would love to top that number this year. On the menu is tossed salad, spaghetti with Jake's signature sauce, a choice of meatballs or sausage, homemade Italian bread and homemade

brownies. Beverages are not included. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$7 for children 12 and under.

"Last year we set a record in total receipts," says Tad Kinsley, owner of Jake's. "We would love to top that on June 15th, so please come out and support this great organization which serves a lot of people in our community."

THURSDAY, JUNE 16th and JUNE 23rd @ 1:30pm LEARN MAHJONG

Mahjong is a game originated in China and is similar to the Western card game gin rummy. It is played with a set of 144 tiles and is a game of skill, strategy and calculation with a degree of chance. Susan Martinetti is teaching but we only have one mahjong set. Does anyone have another that we can use for two weeks?

MONDAY JUNE 20th 2pm PEDORTHICS EXPLAINED by Gretchen Lima

What is pedorthics and how could you benefit from going to a pedorthist? Pedorthics, according to the Pedorthic Footwear Association, is the management and treatment of conditions of the foot, ankle and lower extremities requiring fitting, fabricating and adjusting of pedorthic devices. Pedorthics uses footwear to help ease and treat these foot-related problems. Gretchen Lima, a Certified Pedorthist who works at Family Footwear Center in Manchester, specializes in fitting shoes on arthritic, diabetic and hard-to-fit feet, "Most people have not had their feet measured in 15-30 years" she explains, "and are wearing the wrong-size shoe, the wrong type of shoe, or could benefit from arch supports or cushions." She will be measuring feet at this presentation.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 21st 10- Noon MEDICARE BOOT CAMP sponsored by Senior Solutions

The staff from Senior Solutions provides unbiased information about the Medicare system at this Medicare Boot Camp. The class is for Vermonter who are new to Medicare as well as family members who help these beneficiaries. Medicare has strict enrollment periods and Medicare Boot Camp prepares participants make timely decisions about drug and supplemental plans. There is no fee to attend, but space is limited. Call the Senior Solutions HelpLine to register at 1-800-642-5119.

Keep in mind that Margeurite Mason continues to take personal appointments here in our office for anyone who is ready to sign up for Medicare. These are conducted on Mondays and she can only take 2 appointments a day.

JUNE 21st 10-5pm Senior Trip to Shelburne Falls, MA

Open to all seniors, the Betty Boop bus will be leaving the IGA parking lot at 10am and will return at 5pm. The itinerary will include a visit to the Bridge of Flowers, the Glacial Potholes, shopping in the village of Sherburne Falls and lunch at the Foxtown Diner. Reservations are a must, so call 824-4343 to reserve a seat. There is no charge for transportation, but you will need money for lunch and shopping.

Please note that the FAMILIES ANONYMOUS group has disbanded and will no longer be meeting on Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30 in The Meeting Place at Neighborhood Connections.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS THANKS EILEEN FISHER

Neighborhood Connections recently received a donation from the EILEEN FISHER Company Store in Manchester. The contribution of \$4,539 will support health education classes and programs for women and girls. Programs will be led by Dr. Delores Barbeau, Neighborhood Connections' community physician and health educator. The classes are designed to instill clear knowledge about women's health issues, healthy self-perceptions and the strength to be individuals when faced with peer pressure. Equipped with this knowledge, women and girls may take charge of their own health and share their wisdom with other groups in their communities.

"We are so grateful for EILEEN FISHER'S great generosity and support of our programs for women and girls. We wish to particularly thank Lana Prouty and all their staff," said Executive Director Tom Dougherty.

The Manchester EILEEN FISHER Company Store opened in June of 2014 and has taken an active role in becoming involved in the local community. "We're proud to support Neighborhood Connections, and happy to be making a difference in the lives of girls in rural Vermont. In March of 2015 we had the opportunity to collaborate with Neighborhood Connections and made a contribution of \$3,197 to support the health education programs for women and girls. We were happy to have the opportunity to host an event again this year and make an additional contribution. For over 30 years, we have been committed to empowering girls in finding their voices to make a positive impact in their communities. We are thrilled to follow the continued success of Neighborhood Connections' programs for women and girls," says Lana Prouty, EILEEN FISHER Store Leader.

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SOUTH LONDONDERRY FREE LIBRARY

Paul Myers will be the guest artist at the South Londonderry Free Library during the months of June and July. We are located at 15 Old School Street just off Main St. & Thompsonburg Road.

Panama is a rare and beautiful place that is likely to surprise even the seasoned world traveler. Its unexpected diversities are exciting, even breathtaking. You can be the judge at an opening reception, when Artist and world traveler, Paul Myers will tell you about Panama's rich history, ideal climate stunning landscape, and high energy entertainments. In addition to a display of his paintings, photos, and sketches, Paul will discuss Panama's unique and beautiful qualities Paul and his wife, Welthy spent January through March in the area of Boquete in mountainous western Panama and several days in the Canal Zone.



You're invited to attend an Artist's Reception at 7:30 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 8th at South Londonderry Free Library. There will be a 30-minute illustrated talk and free refreshments at 8:00 p.m. We hope you will let the art work speak for itself - and Panama. The art work, and accompanying text, will be available for public viewing through July 30th. Come and "discover" Beautiful Panama for yourself.

All are welcome to attend the Artist's Reception or to view this different, wonderful exhibit during library hours.

Library Hours are: Mon. Wed. Friday from 10 am to noon & 1 to 5 pm with additional hours on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm (come on over then to Sit & Knit with Carol Barclay) and Saturdays we are open from 10 am to 1 pm. The phone number is 824-3371 or email southlondonderryfreelibrary@yahoo.com.

See you at the library!
Mary K. Butera
Librarian/director

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Beauty Around Town June, 2016 By Martha Dale

Perhaps in part due to the uptick in speed patrols on our town's state highways, folks will be traveling slowly enough to appreciate the beauty around our town. With nearly 200 new daffodil and lily bulbs in the flower bed triangle at Clark's intersection (Rtes. 11 and 100) and additional bulbs at the base of the town entrance signs on the north and east sides of town, key entrances and intersections this spring and summer are alive with color. The Londonderry Beautification Committee's ongoing work to plant, weed, soil amend, fertilize and water beds and bridge boxes kicks the eye candy up a notch for all to enjoy.

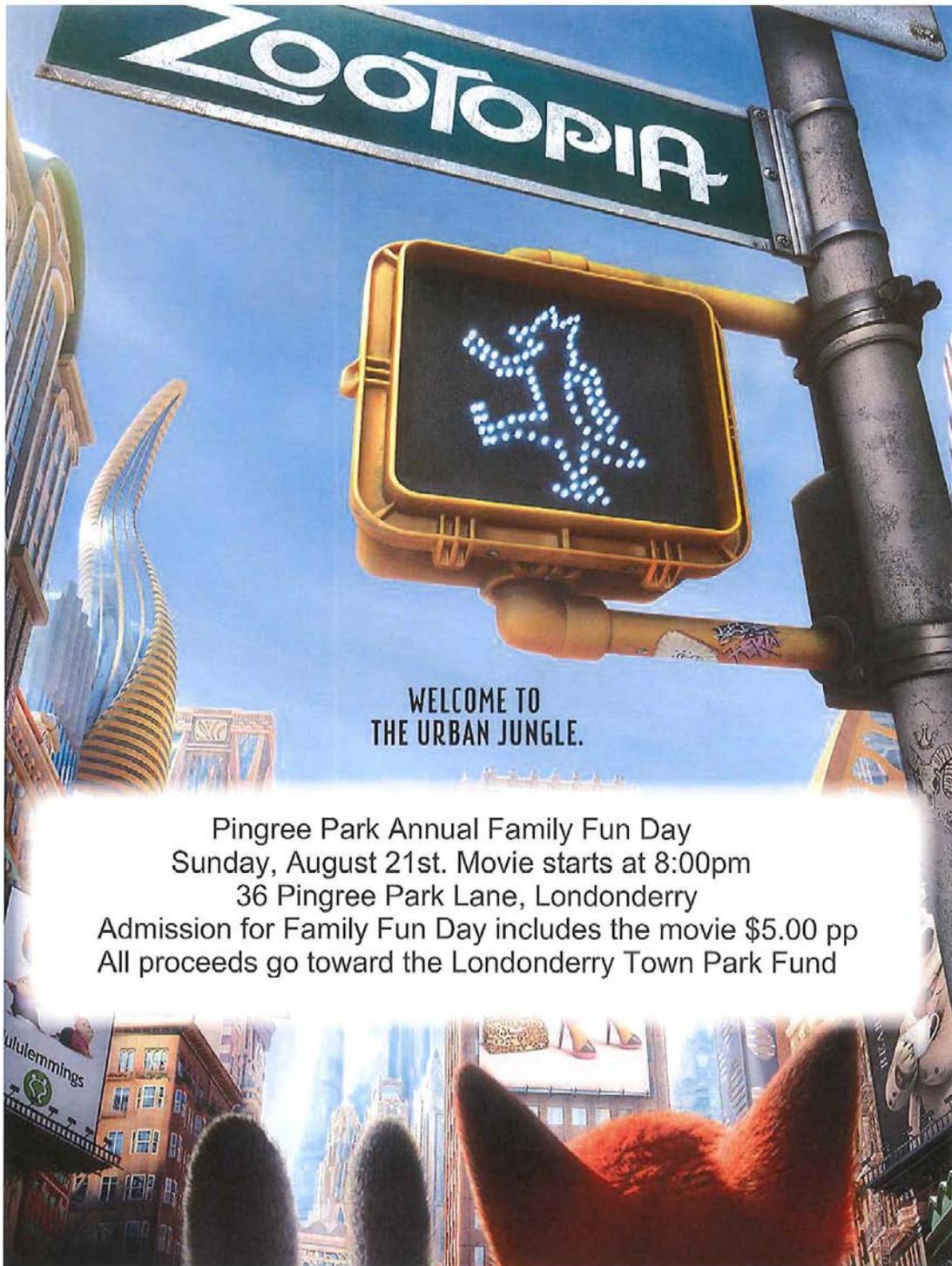
Doesn't your heart skip a beat when you see the line of American flags now on display in town?! Thanks to a joint project with the Rotary Club and the Town Beautification Committee, these majestic symbols of patriotism welcome visitors and citizens alike. Each year members of the Rotary Club replace worn flags and install the entire group of 50+ flags in time for Memorial Day. After Labor Day the Rotary Club members remove and store the flags safely over the winter. Thanks, guys and gals!

Earlier this spring we learned from the Vermont Department of Transportation that because of safety concerns at the intersection of Rt. 100, Middle Town Rd. and Thompsonburg Rd., where a

number of accidents have occurred, they will no longer permit flower boxes on the S. Londonderry Rt. 100 bridge. Flower boxes will be allowed on the two bridges in Londonderry: Williams (near the Outlet Barn) and Utley (near Clark's IGA). As a concession to safety for drivers on these bridges, the flower boxes will be hung on the middle rail, rather than the top rail as they have been in the past. The Beautification Committee and its predecessor volunteer group have been preparing these boxes each spring for 20+ years as well as maintaining them throughout the summer months. A huge cadre of volunteers each summer enlist as bridge box waterers – be sure to give them ample space and slow speeds as you pass them tending the flowers on the Williams and Utley bridges.

The Beautification Committee is always interested in your ideas about ways to make visual improvements to our town. If you have suggestions about projects that can enhance the beauty of our public and private spaces, please send us a note via email to: londonderryvtpride@gmail.com. You can also send a message via US Postal Service to: Londonderry Beautification Committee, c/o Londonderry Town Hall, 100 Old School St., S. Londonderry, VT 05155.

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WELCOME TO
THE URBAN JUNGLE.

Pingree Park Annual Family Fun Day
Sunday, August 21st. Movie starts at 8:00pm
36 Pingree Park Lane, Londonderry
Admission for Family Fun Day includes the movie \$5.00 pp
All proceeds go toward the Londonderry Town Park Fund

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Green Mountain Gardeners Press Release

Mountain Garden Walks: Private Landscapes and Vistas

Saturday, July 23, 10 AM - 4PM tour 6 gardens and 2 homes in the Londonderry/Landgrove/Peru communities. Optional lunch at the Landgrove Inn is also available. The tour will begin at the Custer Sharp House, 2461 Middletown Road, Londonderry. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Lunch is \$15.

Tickets may be purchased in advance on line at www.MountainGardenWalks.eventbrite.com , at Glebe Mountain Gardens & Landscaping in Londonderry, or at R K Miles Inc, Paint & Decorating. Tickets may be purchased the day of the tour at the Custer Sharp House.

Mountain Garden Walks is sponsored by Green Mountain Gardeners, a garden club serving the communities of Londonderry, So. Londonderry, Weston, Landgrove and Peru.

Proceeds from the garden tour will benefit the Club's Lib Thieme scholarship fund. The Green Mountain Gardeners awards a \$1,000 scholarship annually to a graduating senior planning to further his or her education with either college or vocational study. The field of study could be environmental sciences, landscape design, agriculture or other related to the mission of the Green Mountain Gardeners. Eligible students will be a graduate from one of the designated local schools. Selection is based on financial need and potential school and community impact.

This scholarship is made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Elizabeth Thieme who was a founding member of the Green Mountain Gardeners. "Lib" was an innovative and "hands-on" gardener who loved life and especially the company of young people.

For more information contact Elsie Smith at ElsieMSmith@gmail.com or 824-4406



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TRAFFIC ALERT

Construction on the Weston Bridge replacement project is about to begin. The bridge that is being replaced is located on VT Route 100, a little over a mile south of the intersection of Routes 100 and 155. Early this coming week, Belden Construction will begin on-site work, including installing silt and project demarcation fencing and installing traffic lights to control the alternating one-way traffic.

Here's the project schedule:

June 3- June 23: Bridge will be CLOSED starting at 6 AM on June 3rd

June 24 to July 8: Alternating one-way traffic from 7 AM to 9 PM only

July 4: Two-way traffic on July 4th

July 9: New bridge open to two-way traffic

I am the public outreach coordinator for this project. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. If you know of people who would like to be added to the distribution list, please have them e-mail me: westonbridge@adamantaccord.com. I can be reached by phone at 802-917-5055.

Cindy Cook
Principal, Adamant Accord, Inc.

Happenings in June in the area: (not necessarily free – but check their websites and calendars for free activities)

Wkd June 3rd – Strolling of the Heifers – Brattleboro - It's hard to believe it, but this is the 15th annual Strolling of the Heifers Weekend! A wkd of parades and festival of food, music, farm life & exhibits, farm tours and Sunday breakfast.

Wkd of June 16th – WANDERLUST FESTIVAL – Stratton Mountain - Wanderlust is a one-of-a-kind festival bringing together the world's leading yoga teachers, top musical acts, DJs, renowned speakers, top chefs and winemakers, and much, much more - all in a setting of breathtaking natural beauty.

AN APPEAL FROM THE WESTON PRIORY:

The brothers of the Weston Priory have made a double-wide trailer on their property available to a family who recently lost their home in a fire. The family has two small children aged 3 and 17 months. A group of volunteers have donated their time and carpentry skills to ready the trailer before it can be moved to a new site, but money is needed for the project. If you or anyone you know would like to help, go to www.gogetfunding.com/mobile-home-move-for-family-in-need.

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WEST RIVER FARMERS MARKET 2016 Opening Day May 28th

Along the river's edge at the dam
and intersection of Route 11&100

Over 40 Local Vendors
Every Saturday 9 to 1
Memorial Day to Columbus Day
Rain or Shine

Your best option for great local produce
& plants, cookies & crafts, meats and
music!

Fantastic food & fun at a family- friendly
outdoor marketplace accepting EBT.

Come early and often to support
your local farmers, producers & artisans
who bring their very best directly to
you!

Check out weekly offerings and events at
www.westriverfarmersmarket.com

The Town Clerk's office will be closed
June 6th & 7th for building maintenance.

Bone Builders meet FREE at the
Twitchell Bldg every Monday and
Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

14th Annual West River Trail Run

11 Miles of Trouble

South Londonderry to Jamaica State Park

Saturday, June 4th, 2016

(It's National Trails Day!)

Relay teams, single runners & and walkers
of all ages welcome!

New this year: 5K Fun Run!

For more information

<http://thecollaborative.us/westrivertrailrun/>

Co-sponsored by The Collaborative and
Friends of the West River Trail Inc. and
local businesses Sign Up Today!

802.824.4200

or westrivertrailrun@gmail.com

Article Submission Information If your group or organization has community news to share, and you would like to submit an article to The Monthly for publication, please contact us via email at derrynews@aol.com. For your reference, our article submission deadline is the 23rd of each month. Due to space limitations it is up to our discretion to edit any and all submissions and/or reject submissions. The articles and information enclosed do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Town of Londonderry or its board members.

JOB OPENING – ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Londonderry, Vermont, is seeking applicants for the part-time position of Zoning Administrator (Administrative Officer). The ZA administers the Londonderry Zoning Bylaws, works with the Development Review Board, acts as Floodplain Administrator and reports to the Select Board. The opening is immediate and entails approximately 8-10 hours per week. Please contact Town Administrator Stephanie Thompson at 802-824-3356 or townadmin@londonderryvt.org. for more information.

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THE WILLIAMS DAM

By Bruce Frauman

On April 18 the Londonderry Select Board agreed to invite senior undergraduate Civil and Environmental engineering students from UVM to pursue their studies by conducting a research and possibly design project regarding the Williams Dam. Earlier in the year, John Lens, P.E. the professor coordinating these projects from UVM School of Engineering, said he needed to know in early spring, preferably by mid-April, of the town's interest in a study to be able to have the students ready to go by the fall semester. An article about this potential study of the dam appeared in the March, 2016 issue of the Londonderry Monthly. There are many issues involved including the condition of the dam, the effects of the dam on downstream flooding, the effects of the pond on the health of biological life in the West River, "an analysis of downstream effects of a failure" (Emergency Management Director Kevin Beattie), options to obtain water for the Phoenix Fire Department hydrant, the relationship between the dam and the Route 100 bridge, and the prospect of dredging the pond and the reasons the state opposes such dredging.

John Lens, the UVM professor, wrote Bruce Frauman, *"I think we could put a team of students together with skills in the structural and hydrology/hydraulic aspects of dams, combined with river ecology aspects. However, I want the Select Board to specify their objectives, and then I can advise if/how our students can meet those objectives."*

Since March, two state inspection reports about the Williams Dam have surfaced. The first report was written in 2007, the second in 2015, both conducted and written by dam safety engineers working for the Dam Safety and Hydrology Section of the Facilities Engineering Division of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The 2015 report states that, "The dam remains in POOR condition and is continuing to worsen." Both recommend that a "professional engineer qualified in dam safety should be retained to evaluate the dam and prepare plans for repair, replacement or removal of the dam." (2007).

After reading the Dam Safety Williams Dam inspection reports, John Lens also recently wrote, *"However, without seeing the dam and discussing it further with Dam Safety and the town, I do not want to have our students be the only group studying the dam in its current condition, without a qualified professional firm addressing the problems identified by Vermont Dam Safety. We need to resolve that issue."*

Paul Gordon, member of the Select Board, made it clear at a recent meeting that Board has not made any promises to hire a Dam Safety engineer. As Stephanie Thompson, Town Administrator, pointed out, there is no money in the current budget for a study of the Williams Dam. Until there is money and the town does contract with a Dam Safety engineer, the dam will remain as is.

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