

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of May 6, 2013

Present:

Members: Laura Gund, Antoinette Hartgerink, Bill Humm (Chair), David Meeker, Tim Moody, David Shay, Richard Weyrick, Emeritus Member

Alternate Member: Catherine Fisher

Visitor: Steve Woodruff, Wadleigh Falls Road

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on April 1, 2013, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the LCC account as of April 30, 2013, was \$8,414.26 composed of

LCC Funds \$5,118.02

Dave Allan Fund \$3,296.24

Reappointments: David Shay, Antoinette Hartgerink, and William Humm have been reappointed for another term on the Lee Conservation Commission and will need to take the Oath of Office in the Town Hall.

Stevens Field: The Trustees of the Library were conducted on a field trip to the field so that they could be aware of any particular environmental features on the site.

Code Enforcement: Allan Dennis will remain on a part-time basis to conduct site inspections while Caren Rossi will assume the other duties of the office.

LCHIP Reimbursement: The Commission has received a check for \$600 as a payment for its monitoring of the Cox/Randall Easements.

Conservation Lands Management: D. Weyrick and D. Quigley are planning a public field trip on the **Maud Jones Memorial Forest** to discuss the trails, boundary marking, and the planned selective cutting project. D. Quigley is considering two selective cuttings, one using horse powered equipment and the other using mechanical equipment. B. Humm noted that once the selective cutting areas are defined there should be a presentation to the Select Board explaining the proposed activities. It was noted that boats often enter **Wheelwright Pond** through a landing on the Forest Glen Campground. As a result several of the NHDES signs informing boaters of the dangers of aquatic invasive species were left at the campground to be prominently displayed. D. Meeker, B. Humm, D. Weyrick, and A. Hartgerink had a work party to cut Oriental Bittersweet on the **Town Forest**. The site is now considered prepared for spraying in the fall.

Wadleigh Falls Canoe Launch Site: B. Humm reported on the planning for the placement of signs on the Wadleigh Falls bridge warning unsuspecting canoeists of the waterfall.

Easement Monitoring: L. Gund presented a schedule of monitoring visits: Jenkins 5/22, Aldag 5/29, Ath-Mor Farm or Ford 6/5, Talley 6/12.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trails in Town Forest: A. Hartgerink noted that the trails are growing wider and, at times, bifurcate around trees. She has attempted to block or otherwise limit traffic patterns off the main trails but feels that a more intensive program is necessary. She and C. Fisher will visit the trails and report on any changes they feel necessary.

Sale of Tax-Deeded Lands: Mr. Steve Woodruff is an abutter of the two parcels off Wadleigh Falls Road that have been offered for sale by the Select Board. When purchasing his property some years ago he had been informed that those parcels were conservation lands and not for sale, otherwise he would have sought to purchase them at that time. The origin of his misunderstanding was discussed and, though disappointed, he was satisfied with the situation and plans to put in a bid for the property.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lee Five Corners Glossy Buckthorn: B. Humm is planning on a work session at the site to pull the invasive species, glossy buckthorn. He hopes to get volunteers from the Boy Scouts to join the LCC and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the eradication project. Because of its proximity to the Durham well spraying is prohibited on much of the site and mechanical removal methods must be used. Some possible dates in June are under consideration. D. Weyrick suggested that it would be helpful if the plants to be pulled were marked with some decomposable material before the actual project begins.

Trail Policy on Town-Owned Lands: B. Humm presented a draft Memorandum of Understanding which will be emailed to members of the Recreation Commission for their comments before it is submitted to the Select Board.

Lamprey River Management Plan: Dave Shay volunteered to read the draft management plan prepared by the Lamprey River Advisory Committee and will provide his assessment and comments to LCC at its next meeting.

Town Fair Committee: L. Gund has agreed to represent the LCC on the Fair Committee. The Fair is planned for September 7, 2013.

Land Protection: Laurel Cox presented a summary of proposed and current land protection activities and opportunities. Within the discussion the following motion was made by L. Gund, seconded by D. Shay, and passed unanimously:

Moved that the Lee Conservation Commission agrees to share the cost of a restricted appraisal on the John Hauslein property if the Town of Madbury agrees to also share.

Thanks to Laurel Cox: The Conservation Commission presented Laurel Cox with a memorial in recognition of her many successful efforts in protecting and preserving land in the Town of Lee. The celebration also included very good cookies and other goodies.

Next Meeting: June 3, 2013

Submitted By _____
David Meeker