

Lee Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting of October 7, 2013

Present:

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

Alternate Members: Catherine Fisher

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on September 9, 2013, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the LCC account as of September 30, 2013, was \$8,170.55 composed of

LCC Funds	\$4,857.98
Dave Allan Fund	\$3,312.57

Easement Monitoring: Monitoring visits to the Little River Reserve, Mills Little River Park, Cox/Randall, Sanborn, Randy and Ricky Stevens, Schulz/Friedlander, and Ellis Oyster River Reserve easements were conducted in September. No violations of easement agreements were found. In the coming month visits to Verrette (10/9), Quigley and Hartgerink (10/16) are scheduled. A. Hartgerink and C. Fisher will schedule their visit to the Old Mill Reserve.

Ellis Oyster River Reserve: R. Weyrick stated that some small trees are growing in the trails in the Ellis Oyster River Reserve and some signs are missing and these issues should be addressed before snowfall. He also presented a draft of a sign he proposes to locate at the trail head.

Cook/Schultz Easement: B. Humm presented a draft letter to the Select Board asking that they appoint Caren Rossi and Allan Denis to conduct the annual normal monitoring visits to this easement.

Belanger Eagle Scout Project: C. Fisher confirmed that the administrative steps in the project are proceeding normally.

Conservation Lands Management: B. Humm and D. Quigley presented their proposal for trail construction and timber harvest on the **Maud Jones Memorial Forest** to the Select Board. They suggested an integration of the timber harvest on the four proposed sites with historical education by comparing the previous harvesting methods using draft horses, draft oxen, or tractors on three sites with the current use of commercial equipment on the fourth site. Seven Boy Scouts and two adults participated in the attack on Glossy Buckthorn at **Lee Five Corners**. B. Humm suggested that the Fish and Wildlife Service and Lenny Lord be contacted in the spring to propose chemical control of buckthorn outside of the restricted area around Durham's well. The old barn has been removed from the site but a concrete slab remains. It was decided that R. Stevens should be asked to remove the concrete when possible. B. Humm reported that the result of spraying the Oriental Bittersweet on the **Town Forest** is not yet evident. Other possibilities for control and further spraying of the plant were discussed including seeking a combined action with NH Electric Coop which has a right-of-way through the forest.

LCC Contact Person: L. Gund agreed to serve as contact person for the Commission during B. Humm's absence from October 10 to October 16.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cheney Property on Pinkham Road: A. Hartgerink, C. Fisher, R. Weyrick, and B. Humm visited the bog on the property with Walter Cheney. This visit resulted in the need to negotiate the location of the proposed road because of its current position near the bog and associated wetlands. Contacts and discussion with Mr. Cheney and his engineer continue.

NEW BUSINESS:

Noble Farm Property: J. Daley of S & J Transportation will purchase the property and has agreed to accept the current easement agreement with one exception. He is asking for permission to access water from the pond as part of his fire protection plans. A draft amendment to the agreement was discussed and it was decided that the Commission has no objection to the amendment as drafted.

Budget Request for 2014: B. Humm outlined the budget request as presented to the Advisory Budget Committee and the Select Board.

Capital Improvement Plan: B. Humm presented the proposed Capital Improvement Plan relating to future Commission activities. Because of current financial constraints in the Town he suggested that the expenditure of \$200,000 proposed for 2021-2022 be delayed until 2023-2024 and that the Commission make no request for the Land Acquisition Reserve Fund in 2014. These suggestions were endorsed by the Commission.

Next Meeting: November 4, 2013

Submitted By _____
David Meeker