

## **Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of November 4, 2013**

### **Present:**

**Members:** Laura Gund, Antoinette Hartgerink, Bill Humm (Chair), David Meeker, Tim Moody, David Shay

**Alternate Members:** Catherine Fisher

**Visitors:** Wayne G. Morrill, Jones and Beach Engineers; Mike Black and John DeCaprio, Lee Properties; Wade Belanger, Boy Scouts; John Hutton, Coppal House Farm; Chuck Cox, Randall Farm; Ed Banister, 2 Mast Road.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on October 7, 2013, approved as written.

### **Updates and Announcements:**

**LCC Bank Balance:** The balance in the LCC account as of October 31, 2013, was \$7,211.56 composed of LCC Funds \$3,896.69  
Dave Allan Fund \$3,314.87

**Easement Monitoring:** Monitoring visits to the Verrette, Quigley, Lee/Hartgerink, Oyster River Reserve, Old Mill Reserve, and Cook/Shultz easements were conducted in October. No violations of easement agreements were observed.

**Conservation Lands Management:** The concrete floor of the old barn on **Lee Five Corners Reserve** has been removed. There was some discussion of planting vegetation on the barn's footprint but no decision was made. B. Humm reported that NH Electric Cooperative is planning some cutting of Oriental Bittersweet and other vegetation within its right-of-way in the **Lee Town Forest** in late 2013 or early 2014.

**Lamprey River Management Plan:** There will be presentation of the current plan at the Lee Safety Complex on November 6, 9:30AM.

**Land Protection:** B. Humm reviewed current and proposed land protection activities.

**Stewardship Network:** B. Humm reported that UNH Cooperative Extension is organizing a state-wide program, modeled on one in Michigan, which is focused on increasing volunteer land stewardship activities.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Belanger Eagle Scout Project:** Wade Belanger discussed two alternatives for the construction of the kiosk at the beginning of the new trail. He is concerned with seepage into surrounding soil from the construction materials and requested help in choosing between water-sealed pressure treated (PT) wood and non-PT wood treated with water-sealing and pine-tar stain for the underground portion of the kiosk. After some discussion of the alternatives, B. Humm suggested that Wade contact Ricky Stevens to determine the possibility of obtaining cedar posts for the underground material. If cedar is not available, then it was suggested PT wood treated with pine tar diluted by turpentine should be used. Wade expects a crew of 20 to 25 scouts will be helping with the project on Saturday, November 9.

**Joe Ford Property:** Chuck Cox requested guidance on the care of the fields and of the shed on the property. B. Humm reported that Stafford Rivers Conservancy and the estate trustee are both pleased with the current management practices and have suggested that they be continued. LCC concurred with this suggestion and agreed that there was no objection to his using the existing shed for the storage of farm equipment.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Hauslein Property:** Mr. Morrill of Jones and Beach Engineers Inc. presented preliminary plans for project on the property which abutts Madbury. The current plans include a cluster sub-division of 28 lots each over 40,000 sq. ft. on 90 acres in Lee. The plan also includes 37 acres of conserved open-space in Lee which is planned to be part of some 80 acres of open-space in Lee and Madbury

combined. The current plans require a variance for an encroachment of the access road into the wetland buffer zone surrounding the wetlands on the property. The planned 22 foot wide road includes some 60 feet which extend into the 75 foot wetland buffer zone. A site walk is planned for Monday, November 11, at 1:30PM. On an unrelated issue L. Gund moved that the preliminary appraisal on the property, which the LCC commissioned from Scott Heath, not be released to or shared with the Hauslein estate. This motion was seconded by C. Fisher and approved unanimously.

**Keniston/Hutton Easement:** John Hutton is requesting permission to build a 25' yurt as a warming hut for their farm camp, sleigh ride, and other farm/education activities. A temporary structure without foundation is planned within the easement area at the end of the existing barn. The yurt will not have any plumbing but could contain a woodstove. After some discussion of the project D. Shay moved that it be approved. T. Moody seconded the motion which was then passed unanimously.

**Banister Property:** Mr. Banister presented preliminary plans for construction of a septic field and parking lot on his property at 2 Mast Road. Current plans do not include the laying of any impervious surface. After considerable discussion of the details of the proposal it was decided that Mr. Banister would provide additional information in the form of an elevation plan for grading on the site. Members of the Commission would visit the site on Thursday, November 7, at 9AM.

**Capital Improvement Plan:** B. Humm reported that the Capital Improvement Planning Committee asked that as the Commission received \$10,000 by ballot last year it should request the same amount in 2014. This suggestion was agreed to by the Commission.

**Winter Newsletter:** L. Gund asked that the Commission join with the Agriculture Commission in printing a winter newsletter to appear in the January to March period. After discussion it was agreed that the Conservation Commission would support a modest newsletter during that time frame.

**Next Meeting: December 2, 2013**

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_

David Meeker