

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of October 6, 2014

Present:

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

Alternate Members: Catherine Fisher

Visitors: Laura Pastore, 46 Northside Road, Lee; John Hutton, Coppal House Farm

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on September 2, 2014, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the LCC account as of August 31, 2014, was \$6,793.00 composed of

LCC Funds	\$4,403.62
Dave Allan Fund	\$2,389.38

Easement Monitoring: This past month monitoring visits were made to the Hutton, Riverside Farms, Fogg, Henry, McLean, and Quigley easements. Visits are scheduled for the easements of Schulz/Friedlander (10/8), Short (10/15), Stevens (Rick and Randy) (10/22), Lee Little River and Ellis Oyster River (10/29).

Conservation Lands Management: The final form of the Stewardship Plan for the **Rothwell Reserve** has been received and is available for circulation on a variety of media. It was noted that, at the present time, invasive species are well-localized and should probably be addressed as soon as possible. A plot of Japanese knotweed and a Norway maple near the power line are of particular concern. After discussion it was decided that A. Tappan and C. Fisher will conduct an inventory of invasive species on the property as a basis for a future comprehensive program of removal. Trash removal from the abandoned campsite on **Little River Park** was accomplished with the help of several volunteers. A. Tappan reported that she and C. Fisher have removed 403 black locust saplings from the woodcock display site. The two will present a full report of their activities at a later date. A. Hartgerink noted that Rick Stevens has delivered boards for the reconstruction of bridges on the trails in the **Town Forest** to the Highway Department area. The boards have been stacked for drying by Randy Stevens and will be drawn to the bridge sites by Chuck Cox's draft horse at a later date. The possibility of obtaining volunteer assistance in bridge construction was discussed. A motion to pay Rick Stevens \$291.60 for the boards was made by L. Gund, seconded by C. Fisher, and passed unanimously. B. Humm reported that Bio-Spray has done additional spraying for a total cost of \$580. NRCS has done spraying for black locust on **Old Mill Reserve** at no cost to the Town. D. Shay has volunteered to repaint the sign at the head of the trail on the **James Farm Reserve**.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lee Fair Review: The Fair was deemed a success. It was remarked that the invasive species exhibit was of considerable interest to the public. The nature walks were well-attended and appreciated.

Kennard Property Acquisition: B. Humm will arrange a meeting with Mr. Kennard and Laurel Cox to discuss specific details of the acquisition. A RFP has been circulated concerning the surveying of the property and locating an area to be subdivided from the fields as a possible replacement septic field.

Discovery of Lee Town Lands: A. Tappan reported that R. Weyrick is preparing a draft of a publication under this title which will introduce the public to the Town-owned lands.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Hutton of Coppal House Farm: Mr. Hutton is asking for permission to build a permanent structure for livestock and equipment mostly situated on the conservation easement on his farm. The proposed structure has a 24' x 24' concrete pad as a foundation and a 16' x 20' covered drive-through. It is intended to provide animal shelter and easy reclamation of manure and bedding for composting. As the intended purpose conforms completely to the terms of the easement, a motion "The Conservation Commission has no issues with the proposed barn and shed construction." was

made by D. Shay, seconded by C. Fisher, and passed unanimously and the Select Board will be so informed.

Laura Pastore Variance Application : Ms. Pastore seeks to do some construction on the house she recently purchased at 46 Northside Road which lies within the Shoreland Protection Zone around Wheelwright Pond and, thus, requires a variance from the ZBA. She is proposing to raise the roofline and add shed dormers to provide more space on the second floor. Because of the increased fall of run-off from the roof there is a potential for increased erosion off the property. A. Hartgerink and others of the Commission will visit the site on Wednesday, October 8, to assess this potential and inform the ZBA of the results.

Next Meeting: November 3, 2014

Submitted By _____
David Meeker