

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of June 1, 2015

Present:

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

Visitors: Sarah Eaton, 15 Caldwell Lane, Jonathon MacDougal, Builder from Kittery, ME

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on May 4, 2015, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the LCC account as of May 31, 2015, was \$ composed of

LCC Funds	\$
Dave Allan Fund	\$

Easement Monitoring: Visits to the Garrity Reserve and the Short, Aldag, Barth, Crosbie, and Jenkins easements were made without observing anything of concern. A visit to the Sanborn easement is scheduled for June 3 and others will be scheduled later.

Kennard Farm Acquisition: B. Humm, A. Tappan, and the Town Administrator met with the Town Attorney to discuss outstanding issues. Representatives of the Commission will meet with the Select Board on June 8 to request that the funds for the purchase be encumbered before the end of the Town's fiscal year on June 30.

Mosquito Monitoring: Caren Rossi and Kimberly Foss of Swamp, Inc., met with the Select Board to explain the details of the proposed mosquito monitoring and received permission to continue with the planning of the project.

Pulling Garlic Mustard: B. Humm reported that some 6 individuals participated in the event which will be repeated on June 3.

Town Lands Management: The LRAC will soon consider the grant application for spraying invasive species on the **Rothwell Easement**. The application has been slightly modified to address concerns by the LRAC. B. Humm has requested a quote from Bio-Spray for the cost of spraying the Japanese Knotweed on the **Joe Ford Preserve**. It was noted that the fences on the Preserve are deteriorating but the situation is complicated because some of the fences are now on private property. This issue will be reconsidered in the future. C. Fisher reported that she and her husband planted a number of winterberry bushes in locations where they will serve to protect the vernal pool on the **Town Forest**. She also noted that a group associated with the Mast Way School proposes a fund drive to provide expenses associated with an expansion of the easement to include the vernal pool and further protect it. B. Humm and R. Weyrick will investigate the issues involved in such an extension.

Mast Tree Project: D. Quigley met with representatives of the Town, Mast Way School, and Lee Church to exhibit the tree he has chosen to represent mast tree harvesting as part of the Town's 250th celebration. The Church has been asked for their permission to cut the tree as it stands on Church property. C. Fisher provided an overview of the educational activities associated with the mast tree project.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trails on Town-Owned Land: D. Weyrick provided a second draft of a spreadsheet description of the Town's trails. He also provided drafts of signs he would like to post in selected sites. The Commission expressed its approval of these activities.

Multi-Town Footpath in the Lamprey River Corridor: D. Weyrick reported that the Town of Lee and the Lamprey River and Oyster River Watershed Associations are being considered as participants in the planning of the footpath. B. Humm presented a draft letter to the Strafford Regional Planning Commission informing them of the interest the Conservation Commission has in working in partnership with the two watershed associations and SRPC in developing and promoting recreational opportunities in the Lamprey River Corridor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Eaton Property at 15 Caldwell Lane: Ms. Eaton and Mr. MacDougal propose to alter an existing home lying on a 0.53 acre lot on the north side of Wheelwright Pond. The proposed alteration will involve an addition to the footprint of some 20 square feet and, because this is a non-conforming lot, a variance from the ZBA will be required for the construction. A visit to the site is scheduled for 3 PM, Thursday, June 4.

Revision of the Commission's By-Laws: After discussion of the proposed by-laws drafted by a sub-committee, D. Shay moved that the draft be adopted. C. Fisher seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Election of Officers: In accordance with the new by-laws, an election of officers for the Commission was held. B. Humm was elected Chairperson and D. Meeker was elected to the position of Secretary/Treasurer.

Little River Park Site Walk: A visit to Little River Park by representatives of the Select Board, the Recreation Commission, the Conservation Commission, and the Road Agent is planned for 6 PM, June 9. The purpose of the visit is to review and discuss items yet to be completed within the Park.

ORWA River Walk: The Watershed Association plans a walk along the east side of the Oyster River from Mast Road to Route 4, roughly along the Lee/Durham boundary, at 9 AM, June 27.

Next Meeting: July 6, 2015

Submitted By _____
David Meeker