

# Lee Conservation Commission

## Minutes of Meeting of February 1, 2016

**Present Members:** Antoinette Hartgerink, Bill Humm (Chair), David Meeker, David Shay, Anne Tappan, Richard Weyrick, Emeritus Member

**Alternate Member:** Amanda Gourgue

**Visitors:** George Trojan, Paul Vrusho, 67 Concord Road

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on January 4, 2016, approved with corrections.

**Updates and Announcements:**

**LCC Bank Balance:** The balance in the LCC account as of January 31, 2016, was \$9,777.73 composed of

LCC Funds	\$7,384.15
Dave Allan Fund	\$2,393.58

**Easements:** B. Humm reported that the 2-year extension of the agreement concerning the encroachment of the Fore-On-Four driving range on the Schulz-Friedlander easement has been signed by all parties involved.

**Conservation Lands Management:** R. Weyrick reported that, to date, there is no information concerning the source or purpose of the line of tied orange flagging that has been noted in the Maud Jones Memorial Forest. Eternal vigilance is proposed.

**Vegetation Management:** A letter has been received noting that Eversource plans a “vegetation management” project on their right-of-way within the Town in the near future.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Powder Major Farm:** The discussion of the warrant article authorizing the purchase of a conservation easement on the portion of SPNHF’s Powder Major Farm project during the Town’s Deliberative Session on January 30 was essentially very supportive. Nevertheless, B. Humm has contacted the Society seeking support for an informative package to be provided to voters prior to the Town’s vote in March. He has received an estimate of \$1,300 for the preparation and mailing of some 1,600 packets. It was decided that even if the Society does not contribute to the cost, the Commission can finance the effort using its budgeted transaction cost funds. B. Humm will continue to work on this project.

**Master Plan:** A draft of the Commission’s contribution to the Town’s master plan was discussed and approved. It was decided that the portion in the previous plan relating to the Town’s water availability and protection was not really within the Commission’s responsibility and that the Master Plan Committee should be informed that it is important but should be included in another portion of the new Plan. A. Gourgue described some of the concerns and opinions of the Agriculture Commission concerning the financial support and goals for the protection of open space and agricultural lands. These issues were discussed and the Commission suggested that specific percentage goals for land protection can have a negative impact and that it prefers to express its goals through the encouragement of increased land protection without setting specific goals.

**Trojan Property On Osprey Lane:** George Trojan, representing his father, presented a plan for the construction of a new driveway from Osprey Lane to the proposed home site since access from the private drive adjoining the property has been denied. After some discussion it was decided that Mr. Trojan will inform A. Hartgerink when he has flagged the driveway location so that the impact on the adjoining wet and poorly drained soils in the area can be assessed during a site visit.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Vrusho Property on Route Four:** Mr. Vrusho has a lot of 10.4 acres on Route 4 on which he has a seasonal plant/tree/Christmas tree business. He seeks to expand the parking area on the site either through expansion easterly along Route 4 or through the extension of an existing culvert to provide access to property in the rear of the lot which is currently inaccessible. After considerable discussion it was decided that Mr. Vrusho will contact a soil scientist and develop a site plan presenting his proposed expansion showing the soil types and location relative to the Oyster River. At that time the Commission will visit the site to assess the proposal.

**Great Thicket National Refuge:** B. Humm introduced material describing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife proposal for the creation of a refuge for a variety of threatened species ranging from New England Cottontail to Monarch Butterflies. The proposed refuge overlaps the northern portion of Lee. The proposers are seeking comments from the public concerning the project.

**Next Meeting: March 7, 2016**

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_  
David Meeker