

Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of July 5, 2016

Present:

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

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes of meeting held on June 6, 2016, approved as written.

Updates and Announcements:

LCC Bank Balance: The balance in the LCC account as of June 30, 2016, was \$9,876.09 composed of

LCC Funds	\$2,394.41
Dave Allan Fund	\$7,481.68

Easement Monitoring: Visits to the Brady, Verrette, Keniston/Hutton, Blickle/Chisholm easements were completed. The only problem detected was missing boundary pins on the latter easement -- one along Little Hook Road and the other two on the southern boundary line. A motion to arrange for their replacement was made – see below. Monitoring visits to easements at Riverside Farm (7/6), Mills (7/13), DeMeritt Hill Farm (7/20), Palmer (7/27), and Mills Little River Park and, possibly, Lee Little River Reserve (7/30). R. Weyrick will put a notice in the E-Crier inviting townsfolk to join in the visit to Mills Little River Park.

Tibbets Road: R. Weyrick reported on a site walk to the property where he found that the road blockage has been mostly removed and the road is passable for foot traffic. A. Tappan suggested that Tibbets Road be added to the sites monitored on an annual basis. This action will be considered in the coming year.

Education/Outreach:

Conservation Lands Management: B. Humm suggested some alternatives in the Conservation Lands Management Map. After some discussion his suggestions were accepted. B. Humm reported that Doane Landscaping has removed most of the Norway maples from the **Rothwell Reserve**. Eversource will remove the remaining larger four trees and leave the wood for Mr. Doane while removing the brush. The Chief of Police has been notified of the project and will coordinate as needed. Japanese knotweed has been observed in a reserve soil pile on **Little River Park**. Doug Cygan, NH Invasive Species Coordinator, will meet with B. Humm and Randy Stevens to determine the best approach to the elimination of the plants at this site. Japanese knotweed is still a problem at the **Ford Preserve** and **Rothwell Reserve** and BioSpray is seeking a permit to address the situation as well as the remaining bitter-sweet at the **Town Forest**. A. Tappan reported on a visit to the **Joe Ford Wildlife Sanctuary** with B. Humm and Matt Tarr and Haley Androozzi, UNH Wildlife Specialists. The UNH specialists suggested that the portion of the property where buckthorn is prominent be mowed annually rather than on a three-year alternation. They also felt that the property does not have a high priority for woodcock habitat enhancement. A. Tappan suggested a general investigation of invasive species on the property and the development of a strategy of control with consideration of possible changes in the management plan for the property. There was general agreement for this suggestion

Dog Leash Proposal: A. Tappan reported on the Select Board meeting at which there was considerable public discussion of the proposed dog leash regulations. C. Fisher stated that, at times, she has been concerned for unleashed dogs when taking groups of children on the trails. The Select Board is seeking advice from the Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dog Waste Facilities: The various items for the handling of dog waste have been installed with signage at Little River Park and the Town Forest. A. Hartgerink noted that the Town's Durgin Park has a severe dog waste problem. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Replacement of Boundary Pins on Blicke/Chisholm Easement: B.Humm has received an estimate of \$800 for missing pin replacement from Atlantic Surveying. A motion to provide up to \$850 for the pin replacement was made by C. Fisher and seconded by A. Tappan. The motion passed unanimously.

Donation for Town Forest: Faculty of Mast Way School and parents of its students have donated \$410 to the Commission for upkeep of the Town Forest and its trails. This donation will be maintained in the Dave Allan Fund. An announcement of the donation will be announced in the E-Crier and on the Commission's Facebook page once the Select Board has accepted the donation.

Next Meeting: August 1, 2016

Submitted By _____
David Meeker