

## **Lee Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting of February 6, 2017**

### **Present:**

**Members:** Bill Humm (Chair), David Shay, Anne Tappan, Antoinette Hartgerink

**Alternate Members:** Amanda Gourgue

**Ex Officio:** Scott Bugbee, Select Board Representative

**Visitors:** Jason Pohopeck, land surveyor; Jack Hall, Eagle Scout

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Minutes of meeting held on January 2, 2017, approved as written

### **UPDATES and ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **LCC Bank Balance:**

LCC Funds	\$ not available
Dave Allan Fund	\$ not available

**Conservation Easements:** A. Gourgue provided a list of the 2017 proposed CE monitoring dates. Dates are subject to revision during the season.

### **EDUCATION/OUTREACH:**

**Proposed SPNHF easement walks for Lee Residents:** SPNHF has requested that LCC partner with them to conduct public walks on the Town Forest or Maude Jones Forest. Bill will confer with C. Fisher and respond to SPNHF.

**Request from public for Invasive Plant Identification:** C. Fisher and A. Tappan recently visited the property of a Lee resident that asked for help identifying non-native invasive plants in their forest.

### **CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT:**

**Woodcock Habitat Management:** A. Tappan recently conferred with wildlife biologists from UNH Coop. Ext. to follow up on conducting tree cutting to improve woodcock habitat at Little River Park. Matt Tarr will head up the project. Tree cutting will be provided by students of Don Quigley participating in a Service Project. Haley Andreozzi will list the project with the Stewardship Network for assistance for pulling and piling brush. Work will be done in the spring, once the snow cover is gone.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Proposed development plans, Wednesday Hill Rd.:** Jason Pohopeck, land surveyor, described a proposed single family house on 54 acres. The property has little topographic variation and considerable wet soils and forested wetlands. The main question regards the location of the septic

system. Three test pits were dug. Two do not qualify by town standards. A site walk (2/14, 9am) will be conducted to view the area to determine the best site to use.

**Proposed Eagle Scout Project, Little River Trail:** Eagle Scout, Jack Hall, described a proposed walking trail, approx. 1/5 mile long, along the Little River. The trail is all on town property. Limited parking is available on Thompson Mill Rd. There are remnants of an old saw mill. There are possibly two wet areas, so one or two bridges may be needed. Work would be done in May. LCC will review the proposal and would work with the scouts on site.

**Land Use Change Tax Funds:** The LCC has received its allotment (50%) of Land Use Change Taxes that were collected in FY 2014, FY 2015, and FY 2016, total amount \$74,750. B. Humm will inquire of the Tax Collector which properties were taken out of Current Use.

**Land Owner Interest in Possible CE:** A landowner with approx. 35 acres, including much wetland, has inquired about putting the land under a CE. B. Humm put the owner in touch with SELT. He will keep in touch with SELT about possible funding for an easement.

**Conservation Lands Stewardship Trust Fund:** This trust fund was initiated by a warrant article in 2011, but no funds have gone into it. After creation of the fund DRA informed the town that the fund was not permissible because trust funds must be funded at inception. There is approx. \$3,000 from the timber cut in the Maude Jones Forest. B. Humm will look into the situation, whether the fund needs to be discontinued or can it be made active.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Updating Conserved Lands in GRANIT:** The committee met, went through the data base, and conveyed changes back to PREP. This is still a work in progress.

**Piscataqua Regional Monitoring Collaborative:** At a previous meeting there was discussion of possibly using Powder Major CE as a match for a funding request from PRMC. B. Humm has contacted SPNHF and is awaiting a reply.

## **Powder Major Updates:**

The closing for the land purchase and CE's is Feb. 15. Lee BOS have signed the check and CE documents. SPNHF has a bridge loan as additional funds are still needed, but the land is protected.

Wetland Mitigation, former Mobil station, Lee, is moving along. The mitigation amount is \$50,000.

**Next meeting – Monday, March 6, 2017**

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

Anne Tappan